

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

**SCHEDULE 14A**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
(Amendment No. )

Filed by the Registrant  Filed by a party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement
- Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- Definitive Proxy Statement
- Definitive Additional Materials
- Soliciting Material Pursuant to (S)240.14a-12

**HOOKER FURNITURE CORPORATION**

(Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement if other than the Registrant)

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- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

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(1) Amount Previously Paid:

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(4) Date Filed:

\_\_\_\_\_



Hooker Furniture Corporation  
440 East Commonwealth Boulevard  
Martinsville, Virginia 24112

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS**

**To be held June 3, 2021**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Hooker Furniture Corporation (the "Company") will be held at the Company's Corporate Office at 440 East Commonwealth Boulevard, Martinsville, Virginia, on Thursday, June 3, 2021, at 1:00 p.m., for the following purposes:

- To elect as directors the nine nominees named in the attached proxy statement to serve a one-year term on the Company's Board of Directors;
- To ratify the selection of KPMG LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending January 30, 2022;
- To amend the Articles of Incorporation to change the Company's name to Hooker Furnishings Corporation;
- To cast an advisory vote to approve the compensation of the Company's named executive officers, as disclosed in the attached proxy statement; and
- To transact such other business as may properly be brought before the meeting or any adjournment of the meeting.

The shareholders of record of the Company's Common Stock at the close of business on April 12, 2021 are entitled to notice of and to vote at this Annual Meeting or any adjournment of the meeting.

Even if you plan to attend the meeting in person, we request that you mark, date, sign and return your proxy in the enclosed self-addressed envelope as soon as possible so that you may be certain that your shares are represented and voted at the meeting. Any proxy given by a shareholder may be revoked by that shareholder at any time before the voting of the proxy.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Earl Armstrong III".

C. Earl Armstrong III  
Secretary

May 3, 2021

**Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the  
Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be Held on June 3, 2021**

The proxy statement and annual report to shareholders are available at: <http://www.astproxyportal.com/ast/25490>

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# Hooker Furniture Corporation

440 East Commonwealth Boulevard  
Martinsville, Virginia 24112

## PROXY STATEMENT

### ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

June 3, 2021

The enclosed proxy is solicited by and on behalf of the Board of Directors of Hooker Furniture Corporation (the “Company”) for use at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on Thursday, June 3, 2021, at 1:00 p.m., at the Company’s Corporate Office at 440 East Commonwealth Boulevard, Martinsville, Virginia, 24112 and any adjournment of the meeting. The matters to be considered and acted upon at the meeting are described in the notice of the meeting and this proxy statement. This proxy statement and the related form of proxy are being mailed on or about May 3, 2021 to all holders of record on April 12, 2021 of the Company’s common stock, no par value (the “Common Stock”). Shares of the Common Stock represented in person or by proxy will be voted as described in this proxy statement or as otherwise specified by the shareholder. Any proxy given by a shareholder may be revoked by that shareholder at any time before the voting of the proxy by:

- delivering a written notice to the Secretary of the Company;
- executing and delivering a later-dated proxy; or
- attending the meeting and voting in person.

The cost of preparing, assembling and mailing the proxy, this proxy statement, and any other material enclosed, and all clerical and other expenses of solicitations will be borne by the Company. In addition to the solicitation of proxies by use of the mails, directors, officers, and employees of the Company may solicit proxies by telephone or personal interview. These people will receive no additional compensation for these services but will be reimbursed for any expenses incurred by them in connection with these services. The Company also will request brokerage houses and other custodians, nominees, and fiduciaries to forward soliciting material to the beneficial owners of Common Stock held of record by those parties and will reimburse those parties for their expenses in forwarding soliciting material.

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are holding the 2021 annual meeting at our corporate headquarters. This will give us the greatest flexibility to make necessary adjustments to the room in order to hold the meeting as safely as possible and in accordance with current guidelines from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (the CDC) and the Commonwealth of Virginia. While we will be implementing measures to reduce the risk of COVID-19, we cannot guarantee the safety of all attendees due to the nature of the virus. We encourage you to submit your vote by proxy ahead of the meeting date so your vote will still be counted should you decide to not attend for health reasons.

In accordance with the current guidelines set forth by the CDC, we will require all attendees to practice “social distancing” and all attendees will be required to wear a mask for the duration of the Annual Meeting. To protect the health and safety of all attendees, we reserve the right to refuse entry or require removal of any person from the premises or Annual Meeting area should that person refuse to follow the safeguards described above or should a person exhibit cold or flu-like symptoms, or symptoms commonly associated with COVID-19. We request that anyone who exhibits these types of symptoms or has been in contact with someone that has exhibited such symptoms within 14 days of the Annual Meeting not attend. In the event we determine it will be unsafe to hold the meeting due to current pandemic conditions, we will adjourn or postpone the meeting to a later date.

## Voting Rights

On April 12, 2021, the record date for the Annual Meeting, there were 11,908,607 shares of Common Stock outstanding and entitled to vote. Each share of Common Stock entitles the holder of that share to one vote on each matter presented.

### Voting Procedures

Votes will be tabulated by one or more Inspectors of Elections. A majority of the total votes entitled to be cast on matters to be considered at the Annual Meeting constitutes a quorum. Once a share is represented for any purpose at the Annual Meeting, it is deemed to be present for quorum purposes for the remainder of the meeting. Abstentions and shares held of record by a broker or its nominee (“broker shares”) that are voted on any matter are included in determining the number of votes present or represented at the Annual Meeting. However, broker shares that are not voted on any matter at the Annual Meeting will not be included in determining whether a quorum is present at the meeting.

In the election of directors, the nine nominees receiving the greatest number of votes cast in the election of directors will be elected. Votes that are withheld and broker shares that are not voted in the election of directors are not considered votes cast on the election of directors and, therefore, will have no effect on the election of directors.

In the proposal to amend the Articles of Incorporation to change the name of the Company to Hooker Furnishings Corporation, the proposal will be approved if more than two-thirds of all votes entitled to be cast vote in favor of the proposal. Abstentions and broker shares that are not voted on this proposal will have the same effect as a vote against the proposal.

Actions on all other matters to come before the meeting, including ratification of the selection of the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm and the advisory vote on executive compensation will be approved if the votes cast in favor of the action exceed the votes cast against it. Abstentions and broker shares that are not voted on a matter are not considered cast either for or against that matter and, therefore, will have no effect on the outcome of that matter.

The shares represented by proxies will be voted as specified by the shareholder. If the shareholder does not specify his or her choice, the shares will be voted:

- “FOR” the election of the nine director nominees listed on the proxy card;
- “FOR” the ratification of the selection of KPMG LLP as the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending January 30, 2022;
- “FOR” the proposed amendment to the Articles of Incorporation to change the Company’s name from Hooker Furniture Corporation to Hooker Furnishings Corporation;
- “FOR” the approval, on an advisory basis, of the compensation of certain of the Company’s named executive officers as disclosed in this proxy statement; and
- In the discretion of the persons named in the proxies upon any other matter(s) that may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment of the meeting.

### **PROPOSAL ONE ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

The Company proposes the election of W. Christopher Beeler, Jr., Maria C. Duey, Paulette Garafalo, Jeremy R. Hoff, Tonya H. Jackson, E. Larry Ryder, Ellen C. Taaffe, Paul B. Toms, Jr. and Henry G. Williamson, Jr. to hold office until the next Annual Meeting of Shareholders is held and their successors are elected. Each director nominee has consented to being named as a nominee for election at the Annual Meeting. The Board of Directors of the Company presently consists of nine directors whose terms expire at the time of the 2021 Annual Meeting upon election of their successors.

The shares represented by proxies will be voted as specified by the shareholder. If the shareholder returns a properly executed proxy card but does not specify his or her choice, the shares will be voted in favor of the election of the nominees listed on the proxy card. If any nominee should not continue to be available for election, the shares represented by those proxies will be voted for the election of such other person as the Board of Directors may recommend. As of the date of this proxy statement, the Board of Directors has no reason to believe that any of the nominees named below will be unable or unwilling to serve. Information regarding each nominee follows.

**W. Christopher Beeler, Jr.**, 69, has been a director since 1993 and served as lead director until June 2016. He has been a director of both Virginia Mirror Company, Inc. and Virginia Glass Products Corporation, both of which manufacture and fabricate architectural glass products, since 1986 and Chairman of both since 2000. He also served as President of those companies from 1988 until August 2011 and as CEO of those companies from 1997 until August 2011. In addition, he served on the board of directors and as a member of the audit committee of BB&T of Virginia (a wholly owned subsidiary of Truist Financial Corporation, formerly BB&T Corporation) from 1999-2006 and is a certified public accountant licensed in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Mr. Beeler serves as chair of the Audit Committee and is a member of the Compensation Committee and the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. Mr. Beeler's executive experience, which encompasses traditional corporate management functions such as accounting, treasury and cash management, sales, information technology, manufacturing, distribution and human resources, as well as short-range and long-range planning well qualifies him to serve as a director.

**Maria C. Duey**, 58, joined the board in March 2021. Since 2018, Ms. Duey has served as Chief Executive Officer of Leonine Advisory and Support Services, a consulting firm specializing in strategic planning and mergers and acquisitions serving private equity firms, family offices and small businesses. From 2015-2017, Ms. Duey served as Vice-President of Corporate Development and Investor Relations at Horizon Global, a manufacturer of towing and trailering products serving the automotive aftermarket, retail and original equipment (OE) channels. From 1996-2014, she was employed by Masco Corporation, one of the leading manufacturers of branded home improvement and building products, serving as Vice-President-Investor Relations and Corporate Communications from 2005-2014. Ms. Duey serves as a member of the Compensation Committee, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the Audit Committee. The knowledge and experience that Ms. Duey has in the areas of mergers and acquisitions, strategic planning, investor relations and corporate communications, as well as her executive experience, well qualifies her to serve as a director.

**Paulette Garafalo**, 64, has been director since 2017. She has been Chief Executive Officer and President of Paul Stuart, a men's and women's classic apparel retailer and wholly owned subsidiary of Mitsui, Inc., since 2016. She served as President of Brooks Brothers, a men's and women's apparel retailer, from 2000 to 2016. Ms. Garafalo serves as chair of the Compensation Committee, and a member of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the Audit Committee. Ms. Garafalo's executive experience, which encompasses traditional corporate management functions, and her extensive experience in retail and luxury consumer brands well qualifies her to serve as a director. The knowledge and experience Ms. Garafalo has gained as CEO of Paul Stuart further broadens her experience and qualifications to serve as a director.

**Jeremy R. Hoff**, 47, has been a director and Chief Executive Officer since February 1, 2021. He was President of Hooker Legacy Brands from February 2020 through January 2021 and served as President of the Hooker Branded Segment from April 2018 to January 2020. Mr. Hoff joined the Company in August of 2017 as President of Hooker Upholstery. Prior to that, Mr. Hoff served as President of Theodore Alexander USA from December 2015 to August 2017 and Senior Vice President of sales at A.R.T. Furniture Inc. from April 2015 to November 2015 and Vice-President of Sales from March 2011 to April 2015. Mr. Hoff's extensive background in the furnishings industry, including his various positions at the Company, including his recent promotion to Chief Executive Officer, well qualifies him to serve as a director.

**Tonya H. Jackson**, 57, has been a director since 2017. She has served as Senior Vice President and Chief Product Delivery Officer for Lexmark, a global provider of printing and imaging products and services, since 2020. In the role, she is responsible for hardware and supplies research and development, global supply chain, manufacturing operations, service delivery and sustainability. She served as Senior Vice President and Chief Supply Chain Officer from 2016 until 2020, Vice-President of Supply Chain

Operations at Lexmark from 2015 until 2016 and Vice-President of Worldwide Supplies Operations from 2013 until 2015. Ms. Jackson serves as a member of the Compensation Committee, Nominating and Governance Committee and the Audit Committee. Ms. Jackson's senior executive experience at a large, global corporation and her extensive experience in operations and supply chain management well qualify her to serve as a director. Ms. Jackson was National Association of Corporate Directors (NACD) Directorship Certified in 2020.

**E. Larry Ryder**, 73, has been a director since February 1, 2011. Mr. Ryder retired as Executive Vice President – Finance and Administration and Chief Financial Officer of the Company in January 2011, with 34 years of experience in that and other senior management roles with the Company. Mr. Ryder serves on the Audit Committee and the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. His familiarity with the Company's strategy, operations, personnel and prior Board deliberations, along with his extensive knowledge of the home furnishings industry and the investment community, well qualify him to serve as a director of the Company.

**Ellen C. Taaffe**, 59, has been a director since July 2015. Ms. Taaffe serves as chair of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and a member of the Audit Committee and the Compensation Committee. She currently serves as Director of Women's Leadership Programming and a member of the Clinical Faculty of Leadership at Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management. She has been a Consultant and Executive Leadership Coach since 2015 and was President of Smith-Dahmer Associates LLC, a research and brand strategy consulting firm from 2010-2015. Prior to that, Ms. Taaffe served in various senior management positions at Whirlpool Corporation, Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd. and PepsiCo. She has served on the board of directors of John B. Sanfilippo & Son Inc., a Chicago-based baking and snack nut processor, distributor and marketer, since 2011 where she is Chair of the Compensation Committee, and a member of the Nominating and Governance Committee and Audit Committee. In 2018, she joined the board of directors of AARP Services, Inc. ("ASI"), a subsidiary of the non-profit American Association of Retired Persons or "AARP" and currently serves as chair of ASI's Nominating and Governance committee and a member of the Audit & Finance and Compensation Committees. Her executive experience at various public companies, her current service on a public-company board of directors and expertise in and knowledge of traditional and digital marketing best practices in high-ticket consumer durables, well qualify her to serve as a director of the Company.

**Paul B. Toms, Jr.**, 66, has been a director since 1993 and Chair since 2000. Mr. Toms retired as Chief Executive Officer of the Company in January 2021 with 21 years of experience in that role. Mr. Toms also served as President from November 2006 until August 2011, President and Chief Operating Officer from December 1999 to December 2000, Executive Vice President-Marketing from 1994 to December 1999, Senior Vice President-Sales & Marketing from 1993 to 1994, and Vice President-Sales from 1987 to 1993. Mr. Toms joined the Company in 1983. His long tenure with the Company in senior and executive management roles and his extensive prior experience as the Company's Chief Executive Officer uniquely qualify him to serve as a director of the Company.

**Henry G. Williamson, Jr.**, 73, has been a director since 2004 and lead director since June 2016. He is the retired Chief Operating Officer of Truist Financial Corporation (formerly BB&T Corporation) and Branch Banking and Trust Company of North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. He held that position from 1989 until his retirement in June 2004. Mr. Williamson is a member of the Audit Committee, the Compensation Committee and the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. Mr. Williamson's executive management experience at a large publicly traded company, including his financial oversight responsibilities complement Mr. Toms' and Mr. Hoff's experience and coupled with Mr. Williamson's extensive knowledge of finance and banking, well qualify him to serve as a director and lead director of the Company.

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR EACH OF THESE NOMINEES.**

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Board of Directors is currently comprised of:

- the Chair of the Board of Directors;
- the Company's Chief Executive Officer;
- seven independent directors, as determined by the Board of Directors upon the recommendation of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, one of which serves as lead director; and
- a Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, a Compensation Committee and an Audit Committee which each comprised of all of the independent directors, except that Mr. Ryder, the Company's retired Chief Financial Officer does not serve on the Compensation Committee.

With the Mr. Toms transitioning from the role of Chief Executive Officer to a non-employee Chair of the Board as of February 1, 2021, the Board considered whether any additional changes were needed in its board leadership structure.

- **Independent Lead Director.** The Board determined it was in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders to continue to designate a lead director, a role first established in 2011. Mr. Williamson was designated lead director in 2016 and has been re-elected by the Board's independent directors to that role every year since then. The lead director's duties include presiding over executive sessions of the Company's independent directors, facilitating information flow and communication among the directors, serving as a point of contact between the independent directors, the Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer and performing other duties as requested by the Board. The Board believes having an independent lead director gives the independent directors a representative by which to participate in Board management and to communicate with the non-independent members of the Board.
- **Board Chair.** The Board determined it was appropriate and in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders for Mr. Toms to continue to serve as Board chair. Mr. Toms, a 38-year veteran of the Company with 21-years' experience as its Chairman and Chief Executive Officer has extensive knowledge of the Company, its culture and history, and the home furnishings industry. The Board believes this background enhances the role of Chair in several areas including (i) ensuring the smooth transition of Mr. Hoff in his new role as Chief Executive Officer (ii) the development of the Company's long-term strategic plans, and (iii) counseling senior management in the implementation of those and other initiatives. Additionally, the Board believes having a non-employee chairman, among other things, allows Mr. Hoff to focus on the Company's strategy, business and operations as both an officer and director.
- **Chief Executive Officer as a Director.** The Board determined it was in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders for Mr. Hoff, the Company's Chief Executive Officer, to serve as a director. Based on its experience with Mr. Toms, the Board believes that Mr. Hoff in his current role as the Company's Chief Executive Officer is the best window into the operations and strategic focus of the Company and its senior management. Consequently, the Board believes having Mr. Hoff as a member of the Board promotes better and more timely communication and decision-making and facilitates better understanding and evaluation of his performance as Chief Executive Officer.

The Board believes that this leadership structure provides an effective balance between the Board Chair, an independent Lead Director, oversight by active, independent directors and the Chief Executive Officer. Consequently, the Board of Directors believes the current leadership structure is in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders.

The Board of Directors typically holds six to eight meetings per year. In the fiscal year beginning February 3, 2020 through January 31, 2021 ("fiscal 2021"), it held seventeen meetings, of which thirteen

meetings were monthly or semi-monthly meetings with management to monitor and discuss the Company's response to the COVID-19 crisis. During fiscal 2021, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee met six times, the Compensation Committee met five times and the Audit Committee met four times. Each incumbent director attended at least 75% of the total fiscal 2021 Board meetings and committee meetings held during the period that he or she was a member of the Board and/or those committees. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the Board of Directors have each determined that each of the following directors is independent as defined by applicable NASDAQ listing standards: W. Christopher Beeler, Jr., Maria C. Duey, Paulette Garafalo, Tonya H. Jackson, E. Larry Ryder, Ellen C. Taaffe and Henry G. Williamson, Jr. At each Board meeting the independent directors conduct a part of the meeting in executive session, at which only independent directors are present. It is the Company's policy that each of the directors is expected to attend the Company's Annual Meeting. All directors, who were directors on the date of last year's annual meeting of shareholders, attended last year's annual meeting of shareholders in person or by phone.

Also in 2011, upon the recommendation of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, the Board determined that it was in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders that all independent directors serve on all committees of the Board. The Board believed, based on the relatively small size of the Board in 2011 this "Committees of the Whole" approach was more efficient, since all independent directors have input into committee actions and that the need for committees reporting at Board meetings would be greatly reduced. The Board has expanded since 2011; however, it believes the Committees of the Whole approach is still the most efficient structure, given its modest size and the speed at which new directors can be oriented and mature in their roles. However, Mr. Toms, the Company's former Chief Executive Officer and current Board Chair, and Mr. Hoff, the Company's current Chief Executive Officer, do not serve on any Board Committees and Mr. Ryder, a former executive officer of the Company who retired in 2011, does not serve on the Compensation Committee.

### **Corporate Governance Guidelines**

The Board of Directors has adopted Corporate Governance Guidelines, which set forth its policies with respect to certain governance issues and, together with the Company's articles and bylaws, provide a framework for the effective governance of the Company and are intended to support the Board in overseeing the business and affairs of the Company on behalf of the Company's shareholders. A copy of the Corporate Governance Guidelines is available on the Company's website at [investors.hookerfurniture.com](https://investors.hookerfurniture.com).

### **Environmental, Social and Governance ("ESG") Initiatives**

The Board of Directors has adopted a set of policies and practices addressing environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and ethics & governance that it believes create long-term value for shareholders, while investing in employees and communities and positively impacting the environment. The Board of Directors exercises oversight over these matters and discusses them at least quarterly with management. Management meets at least monthly to discuss the development and implementation of ESG initiatives and is actively working to refine the Company's ESG initiatives based on current best practice, shareholder expectations and regulatory developments. The Company's most up-to-date ESG policies and practices are available on its investor relations website <https://investors.hookerfurniture.com/corporate-governance>.

### **Contacting the Board of Directors**

Shareholders and other interested parties who desire to contact the Company's Board of Directors or any individual director may do so by writing to: Board of Directors, c/o C. Earl Armstrong III, Secretary, Hooker Furniture Corporation, P.O. Box 4708, Martinsville, VA 24115. The Board has instructed our Secretary to promptly forward all such communication to the specified addressees thereof.

Shareholders and other interested parties also may direct communications solely to the independent directors of the Company, as a group, by addressing such communications to the Independent Directors, c/o Secretary, at the address set forth above.

In addition, the Board of Directors maintains special procedures for the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received by the Company regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or



auditing matters, and for the submission by employees of the Company, on a confidential and anonymous basis, of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters. Such communications may be made by writing to the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors, c/o Secretary, at the address set forth above. Any such communication marked “confidential” will be forwarded by the Secretary, unopened, to the Chair of the Audit Committee.

### **Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee**

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee consists of all of the Board’s independent directors. Ms. Taaffe currently serves as its Chair. The Committee:

- identifies, evaluates, investigates and recommends prospective director candidates;
- assists the Board with respect to corporate governance matters applicable to the Company;
- evaluates and makes recommendations to the Board regarding the size and composition of the Board and makes recommendations about the chairs of all standing Board committees;
- develops and recommends criteria for the selection of individuals to be considered as candidates for election to the Board; and
- assists the Board in senior management succession planning.

The Board of Directors has adopted a written charter for the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, a current copy of which is available on the Company’s website at [investors.hookerfurniture.com](http://investors.hookerfurniture.com). The Board of Directors has determined that each member of the Committee is independent as defined by applicable NASDAQ listing standards.

Candidates for director nominees will be assessed in the context of the current composition of the Board, the operating requirements of the Company and the long-term interests of shareholders. The Committee has not established a set of specific, minimum qualifications for director candidates, but in conducting its assessment, the Committee will consider such factors as it deems appropriate given the current needs of the Board and the Company. In general, the Committee seeks candidates who:

- possess a reputation for adhering to the highest ethical standards and have demonstrated competence, integrity, and respect for others;
- have demonstrated excellence in leadership, judgment and character;
- have diverse business backgrounds, with a wide range of relevant education, skills and professional experience that will complement and enhance the Company’s business and strategy; and
- have the time to devote to Board and Committee service and are free of potential conflicts of interest.

While the Board has no formal policy regarding diversity, the Committee considers the diversity of the Board when identifying nominees for director. Such diversity may include a variety of different personal, business and professional experiences, as well as a variety of opinions, perspectives, backgrounds and other characteristics.

In the case of incumbent directors, the Committee reviews each director’s overall service to the Company during his or her term as director and whether his or her skills are still relevant to the needs of the Board in deciding whether to re-nominate the director. The Committee also considers future Board needs in light of the mandatory retirement age for directors of 75.

The Board does not believe that it is appropriate or necessary to limit the number of terms a director may serve. However, any outside director must retire upon reaching the age of 75, with such retirement being effective and occurring upon the completion of the term in which the director turns 75.

In March 2021, the Board expanded its size to nine directors. This decision was based on the Board’s desire to facilitate orderly transitions for future Board retirements and to add and refresh pertinent skill sets. Upon this expansion, the board elected Ms. Duey on the recommendation of the Nominating and

Corporate Governance Committee, based on that Committee's director search process during late 2020 - early 2021.

The Committee's search process consisted of:

- identifying desired director skills and qualifications from the Board's annual self-assessment;
- reviewing resumes from a variety of sources including:
  - names submitted by current directors;
  - resumes from board of director executive education databases from both the University of North Carolina School of Law and Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management; and
  - resumes submitted to the Company by individuals seeking directorship positions and recruitment firms seeking directorship positions for their clients.
- interviewing individuals whose skills and qualifications matched those identified in the Board's annual self-assessment.

Based on its extensive search process, the Committee ultimately selected Ms. Duey for nomination to the Board. The Committee received Ms. Duey's name from a Kellogg School of Management director education database which used search criteria that matched the skills and qualifications the Committee desired in a potential director. In selecting Ms. Duey from among the other candidates it interviewed, the Committee focused on Ms. Duey's diversified experience in mergers and acquisitions, strategic planning and investor relations and her public-company experience as a senior financial executive.

The Committee also facilitates the Board's annual self-assessment and is responsible for recommending director compensation to the Board of Directors. The Committee annually reviews Board compensation of the Company's peer group and periodically engages outside consultants to independently assess Board compensation.

#### **Procedures for Shareholder Recommendations of Director Nominees**

The Committee will consider a director candidate recommended by a shareholder of record for election at the 2022 Annual Meeting if, in addition to meeting other applicable requirements, the shareholder submits the recommendation in writing to the Secretary of the Company in accordance with the procedures for the nomination of directors in the Company's bylaws (including Article III, Section 3 of the bylaws) and it is received at the Company's principal executive offices on or before January 3, 2022. The recommendation must include the candidate's name and address, a description of the candidate's qualifications for serving as a director and the following information:

- the name and address of the shareholder making the recommendation;
- a representation that the shareholder is a holder of record of the Company's Common Stock entitled to vote at the meeting and, if necessary, would appear in person or by proxy at the meeting to nominate the person or persons recommended;
- a description of all arrangements or understandings between the shareholder and the nominee and any other person or persons (naming such person or persons) pursuant to which the nomination or nominations are to be made by the shareholder;
- information regarding the director candidate that would be required to be included in a proxy statement filed under the proxy rules of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), if the candidate were to be nominated by the Board;
- information concerning the director candidate's independence as defined by applicable NASDAQ listing standards; and
- the consent of the director candidate to serve as a director of the Company if nominated and elected.

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee may refuse to consider the recommendation of any person not made in compliance with this procedure.

### **Compensation Committee**

The Compensation Committee consists of all of the Board's independent directors, except Mr. Ryder who is not a member of the Committee. Ms. Garafalo currently serves as its Chair. The Committee reviews and makes determinations with regard to the compensation for the Chief Executive Officer and the Company's other executive officers.

The Board of Directors has determined that each member of the Compensation Committee is independent as defined by applicable NASDAQ listing standards.

The Board of Directors has adopted a written charter for the Compensation Committee, a current copy of which is available on the Company's website at [investors.hookerfurniture.com](http://investors.hookerfurniture.com). The charter delegates to the Committee a number of specific responsibilities for establishing, reviewing, approving, monitoring and administering executive compensation. In addition, the charter requires that each member of the Compensation Committee be a "non-employee director" under Rule 16b-3 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and that each Committee member meet applicable NASDAQ director independence requirements. The Report of the Compensation Committee can be found on page 17. Under the terms of its charter, the Compensation Committee may delegate any of its duties or responsibilities to subcommittees of the Compensation Committee. In addition, the Compensation Committee may delegate certain administrative responsibilities relating to the Company's 2020 Stock Incentive Plan to Company officers.

The Compensation Committee has the authority, without any further approval from the Board, to retain advisers, as it deems appropriate, including compensation consultants. In retaining an adviser, the Compensation Committee has sole authority to approve the adviser's fees and other retention terms and has the sole authority to terminate the adviser.

The Compensation Committee has directly engaged Mercer (U.S.) Inc. as its external compensation consultant. Mercer reports to and receives direction directly from the Committee, and a representative of Mercer is available to attend meetings of the Compensation Committee as its advisor when requested. Most recently in December 2018, Mercer provided the Compensation Committee with third-party survey information for use in setting short and long-term compensation levels, perspective on emerging compensation issues and trends, and expertise in incentive compensation structure, terms and design. In addition, Mercer provides record keeping and actuarial services in connection with the Company's Supplemental Retirement Income Plan but does not advise the Company on the design or operation of that plan. In considering whether to continue to engage Mercer as the Compensation Committee's compensation advisor, the Compensation Committee annually evaluates Mercer's independence from Company management and whether it has any conflicts of interest, including the fact that Mercer provides certain record keeping and consulting services to the Company. In fiscal 2021, the Compensation Committee evaluated the fees paid by the Company to Mercer as a percentage of Mercer's total revenue and Mercer's policies and procedures to prevent conflicts of interest, and Mercer's confirmation that it has no business or personal relationship with a member of the Compensation Committee, does not own any stock of the Company, and has no business or personal relationship with any executive officer of the Company. The Compensation Committee concluded that Mercer was independent of the Compensation Committee and of Company management and had no conflicts of interest in its performance of services to the Committee.

The Compensation Committee typically meets five to six times each year. During the 2021 fiscal year, it met five times. The Compensation Committee invites the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer to attend meetings when the Compensation Committee considers their input relevant or necessary for evaluating compensation proposals. A portion of each meeting is generally held in executive session, as the Compensation Committee deems appropriate. All Compensation Committee votes are conducted in executive session. The Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer do not attend these executive sessions. The Compensation Committee annually reviews the Chief Executive Officer's compensation.

The Chief Executive Officer makes recommendations to the Compensation Committee concerning compensation for the other executive officers of the Company. Decisions regarding compensation for employees other than the executive officers are made by the Chief Executive Officer in consultation with other members of senior management. Management assists the Compensation Committee in administering various elements of the Company's executive compensation program. The Compensation Committee has unrestricted access to management and may request the participation of management in any discussion of a particular subject at any meeting. During fiscal 2021, management provided the Compensation Committee with recommendations regarding executive officer compensation, as discussed further in the executive compensation discussion that begins on page 17.

#### **Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee consists of all of the Board's independent directors. Mr. Beeler serves as its Chair. The Audit Committee:

- approves the appointment of an independent registered public accounting firm to audit the Company's financial statements and internal control over financial reporting;
- negotiates fees for audit, audit-related and tax services with the Company's independent registered public accounting firm;
- reviews and approves the scope, purpose and type of audit and non-audit services to be performed by the independent registered public accounting firm;
- reviews and discusses with management and the independent registered public accounting firm significant accounting, reporting, legal, regulatory or industry developments affecting the Company (and/or the Company's financial statements), and monitors compliance with the Company's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics;
- oversees the Company's internal audit function; and
- oversees the accounting and financial reporting processes of the Company and the integrated audit of the Company's annual financial statements and internal control over financial reporting.

The Audit Committee receives updates from the auditor and management at its quarterly Audit Committee meetings. During fiscal 2021, the auditor and management made presentations to the Committee on specific topics of interest, including:

- the auditor's assessment of its independence;
- significant audit matters;
- managements' implementation of new accounting standards;
- management's critical accounting policies and practices;
- the auditor's fiscal 2021 integrated audit plan and updates on the completion of the plan;
- compliance with the internal controls required under Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act; and
- the Company's cybersecurity practices.

The Board of Directors has adopted a written charter for the Audit Committee, a current copy of which is available on the Company's website at [investors.hookerfurniture.com](http://investors.hookerfurniture.com). The Board of Directors has determined that each member of the Audit Committee is independent as defined by applicable SEC rules and NASDAQ listing standards. The Company's Board of Directors has determined that Ms. Duey and each of Messrs. Williamson, Ryder and Beeler is an "audit committee financial expert" for purposes of the SEC's rules. The Report of the Audit Committee can be found on page 17.

### Appointment and Evaluation of the Independent Auditor

On an annual basis, the Audit Committee reviews the audit firm's performance as part of its consideration of whether to reappoint the firm as the Company's independent auditor. As part of this review, the Audit Committee considers, among other things:

- the continued independence of the audit firm;
- the audit firm's experience and fresh perspective occasioned by mandatory audit partner rotation and the rotation of other audit management;
- the length of time the audit firm has served as the Company's independent auditors, including the benefits of having a long-tenured auditor and controls and processes that help safeguard the audit firm's independence;
- whether the audit firm should be rotated and considers the advisability and potential of selecting a different audit firm;
- the appropriateness of the audit firm's fees;
- evaluations of the audit firm by management;
- the audit firm's effectiveness of communications and working relationships with the audit committee and management; and
- the quality and depth of the audit firm and the audit team's expertise and experience in the Company's industry and related industries considering the breadth, complexity and global reach of the Company's business.

### Related Party Transactions

The Company's Audit Committee is responsible under its charter for reviewing and approving any related party transactions. For this purpose, a "related party transaction" includes any transaction, arrangement or relationship involving the Company in which an executive officer, director, director nominee or 5% shareholder of the Company, or their immediate family members, has a direct or indirect material interest that would be required to be disclosed in the Company's proxy statement under applicable rules of the SEC. There were no related party transactions in fiscal 2021.

For relationships or transactions involving a related-party which involve an officer or director, the proposed relationship or transaction must be (i) reported to the Chair of the Audit Committee, if a director or senior Company officer (including the named executive officers) is involved, (ii) reported to the Chief Financial Officer or the Chief Executive Officer, for transactions involving other officers of the Company, and (iii) reviewed and approved by the Audit Committee. While we do not have a standalone written policy or procedure for the review, approval or ratification of other transactions with related persons, it is our practice that potential related person transactions are first screened by our Chief Financial Officer and then sent to the Audit Committee for review. In determining whether to approve or reject a related person transaction, the Audit Committee considers, among other factors it deems appropriate, whether the proposed transaction is on terms no less favorable than terms generally available to an unaffiliated third party under the same or similar circumstances, as well as the extent of the related person's economic interest in the transaction.

### **Code of Business Conduct and Ethics**

The Board of Directors has adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics, which applies to all of the Company's employees and directors, including the principal executive officer, principal financial officer and principal accounting officer. A copy of the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics is available on the Company's website at [investors.hookerfurniture.com](http://investors.hookerfurniture.com). Amendments of and waivers from the Company's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics will be posted to the website when permitted by applicable SEC and NASDAQ rules and regulations.

### **The Role of the Board of Directors in Risk Oversight**

The Board of Directors, or an appropriate committee of the Board of Directors, provides oversight for Company-wide risk management and performs the Board's oversight role in many different ways, including by:

- reviewing and approving the Company’s annual operating and capital budgets;
- reviewing the Company’s quarterly and year-to-date operating results and discussing those results with senior management;
- reviewing management’s quarterly risk assessment reports;
- reviewing management’s quarterly Enterprise Risk Management reports;
- reviewing management reports regarding the Company’s internal control over financial reporting; and
- reviewing reports regarding the Company’s internal control over financial reporting from its independent registered public accounting firm.

The Audit Committee meets in executive session with the Company’s independent auditors to discuss topics related to the Company’s financial reporting and internal control. Additionally, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the Compensation Committee meet periodically to address governance and compensation issues, including compensation-related risks. The committees have the authority to utilize outside advisors and experts when needed. The Board committees (which consist of only independent members) also engage in discussions regarding risk management in executive session, without the participation of the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

### **Director Share Ownership Guidelines**

In a prior year, the Board adopted a policy under which non-employee directors are required to hold shares with a value equal to three times their annual cash compensation. Each director is allowed six years to accumulate the required holding level. Each director that has been a director at least six years as of the end of the Company’s most recently completed fiscal year met these guidelines as of such date.

### **Director Compensation**

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for recommending director compensation to the Board of Directors. Non-employee directors are compensated based on their term of service, which typically begins with the election of directors at the Company’s Annual Meeting, and which is referred to as a “service year.”

#### Director Compensation Review

In 2019, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee retained Mercer to review director compensation structure and positioning relative to the 13-company peer group developed for the executive total remuneration review in December 2018. Prior to the study, the Board of Directors had outlined proposed adjustments to Director Compensation for the 2019-2020 board term which included:

- maintaining cash compensation at current level of \$48,000 per year; and
- increasing the portion of each Board member’s award delivered in equity to \$60,000 to better align total director compensation and the ratio of cash to equity compensation with the Company’s peer group.

Mercer had no proposed recommended changes to the Board’s proposed approach. Its independent competitive compensation review found that:

- the \$48,000 cash compensation was positioned at the market median;
- general Board member compensation was positioned between the market 25<sup>th</sup> percentile and median;
- providing a fixed equity award was consistent with general industry and market standards and was consistent with the Company’s peers;
- the \$60,000 equity award was positioned at the market median when viewed against general industry and was consistent with the Company’s peers; and

- the allocation of cash versus equity components was consistent with general industry market standards and practices amongst the Company's peers.

Based on Mercer's independent findings confirming that the Company's levels of cash and equity compensation payable to the Company's Board members is reasonable, and (1) to better align director compensation with Board compensation of the Company's peers and (2) to provide better alignment between the Company's directors and its shareholders through the increase in equity-based compensation, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee recommended that the equity award be increased to \$60,000 per year and all other compensation components remain unchanged. The Board approved the Committee's recommendations and increased the equity award for the 2019-2020 service year.

#### Non-Employee Director Compensation for the 2020-2021 Service Year

For the 2020-2021 service year, non-employee directors received an annual board cash retainer of \$48,000, the Chair received an additional cash stipend as detailed below, the Lead Director received an additional cash stipend of \$15,000, the Audit Committee Chair received an additional cash stipend of \$10,000 and the Chairs of the Compensation and Nominating and Corporate Governance committees received additional cash stipends of \$5,000 each. The annual board cash retainer and a retainer (which will annually be \$20,000) for serving as non-employee Chair were prorated for Mr. Toms since he became a non-employee director upon his retirement as the Company's chief executive officer on January 31, 2021. The annual board cash retainer for serving as a non-employee director was prorated for Ms. Duey since she became a director on March 5, 2021. Except for Mr. Toms and Ms. Duey, these fees were paid to directors in June and August of 2020. Prorated fees of \$22,667 were paid to Mr. Toms in February 2021 and prorated Fees of \$12,000 were paid to Ms. Duey in March 2021.

For the 2020-2021 service year, all non-employee directors also received annual grants of restricted stock under the Company's 2020 Stock Incentive Plan. Each non-employee director received a \$60,000 stock grant. Mr. Toms and Ms. Duey each received a prorated stock grant for the remainder of the 2020-2021 service year based on the date each became a non-employee director, such that Mr. Toms received a \$20,000 stock grant and Ms. Duey received a \$15,000 stock grant. The restricted stock awards were determined by dividing \$60,000 by the fair market value (as defined in the 2020 Stock Incentive Plan) of the Company's Common Stock on the award date and rounding to the nearest whole share. The restricted stock will become fully vested, and the restrictions applicable to the restricted stock will lapse, on:

- the first anniversary of the grant date if the non-employee director remains on the Board to that date; or
- if earlier, when the director dies or is disabled, the Annual Meeting following the director's attainment of age 75, or a change in control of the Company.

Under the terms of the 2020 Stock Incentive Plan, as amended, directors may defer receipt of their annual restricted stock award beyond the vesting date (the next annual meeting date following the grant date) to a specified date in the future, attainment of a specified age, or to the director's termination of service as a director with the Company. Any such restricted stock award that is deferred will ultimately be delivered in shares of the Company's Common Stock shortly after the deferral date. During the deferral period, the Company's commitment to the director to deliver the shares remains an unsecured liability of the Company.

The Company's anti-hedging policy applies to persons it has deemed to be "key insiders." Key insiders include the Company's Directors, its Executive Officers and other persons who in the normal course of their duties receive company-wide business and financial information before public release. The policy prohibits key insiders from engaging in certain forms of hedging or monetization transactions, specifically prohibiting zero-cost collars and forward stock sales, with the respect to the Company's Common Stock. In addition to its anti-hedging provision, the Company's Insider Trading Policy prohibits key insiders employees, officers, directors or certain of their family members from engaging in certain types of other transactions related to the Company's Common Stock, including transactions in derivative securities, using margin accounts pledging shares as collateral.

Directors are reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in connection with attending Board and committee meetings or performing their duties as directors, as well as Board-related professional education.

Prior to his retirement as CEO, Mr. Toms received no compensation or other payments for serving on the Board of Directors or for attending Board or committee meetings other than reimbursement for expenses. Mr. Hoff, who was named CEO and appointed to the Board on February 1, 2021, received no additional compensation for his role as a Director. Messrs. Toms' and Hoff's compensation for services rendered to the Company in their officer capacities is reported in the Summary Compensation Table following the Compensation Discussion and Analysis on page 36.

In response to the COVID-19 crisis and the expected negative financial effects on the Company, on April 7, 2020, the Board of Directors voted to temporarily decrease its total compensation for the 2020-2021 service year, consistent with the temporary reduction of the CEO's and CFO's salaries. Each director's total compensation was reduced by 20% and achieved by reducing total cash fees paid to each director. On July 23, 2020, the Board of Directors restored board compensation to previous levels, but, consistent with executive officers, directors were not reimbursed for the four months of service they operated under the reduced fee arrangement.

The following table sets forth non-employee director compensation paid in fiscal year 2021 for the 2020-2021 Board service year. In the case of Mr. Toms, who retired as the Company's Chief Executive Officer on the last day of the 2021 fiscal year, amounts shown below were paid to him in February 2021. Fees paid to Mr. Toms were prorated for a partial year of service. Amounts shown for Ms. Duey were paid in March 2021 upon her appointment as a Director and were prorated for a partial year of service.

#### Non-Employee Director Compensation

Name	Cash Fees(1)	Reductions(2)	Net Cash Fees	Stock Awards(3) (4)(5)	Total
W. Christopher Beeler, Jr.	\$ 58,000	\$ (7,867)	\$ 50,133	\$ 60,000	\$ 110,133
Maria C. Duey	12,000	-	12,000	15,000	27,000
Paulette Garafalo	53,000	(7,533)	45,467	60,000	105,467
Tonya H. Jackson	48,000	(7,200)	40,800	60,000	100,800
E. Larry Ryder	48,000	(7,200)	40,800	60,000	100,800
Ellen C. Taaffe	53,000	(7,533)	45,467	60,000	105,467
Paul B. Toms, Jr.	22,667	-	22,667	20,000	42,667
Henry G. Williamson, Jr.	63,000	(8,200)	54,800	60,000	114,800

- (1) Includes annual retainer fee, committee chair fees and lead director fee paid to each director in June 2020 (February 2021 for Mr. Toms and March 2021 for Ms. Duey), as described in greater detail above.
- (2) Except for Mr. Toms and Ms. Duey, each of whom became non-employee directors after the reductions in early 2021, each director's compensation was reduced by 20% for four months and achieved by reducing cash fees paid.
- (3) These amounts are the aggregate grant date fair value of shares of restricted stock awarded to each non-employee director on June 16, 2020 (February 1, 2021 for Mr. Toms and March 5, 2021 for Ms. Duey) under the Company's 2020 Stock Incentive Plan. Fair value is determined in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Topic 718. The amounts shown exclude the impact of estimated forfeitures related to service-based vesting conditions. For a discussion of assumptions used in calculating award values, refer to note 14 of the Company's consolidated financial statements included in the Company's 2021 Annual Report on Form 10-K.
- (4) As of January 31, 2021 (February 1, 2021 for Mr. Toms and March 5, 2021 for Ms. Duey), each non-employee director had the following unvested stock awards outstanding:



<b>Name</b>	<b>Restricted Stock(#)</b>
W. Christopher Beeler, Jr.	3,125
Maria C. Duey	419
Paulette Garafalo	3,125
Tonya H. Jackson	3,125
E. Larry Ryder	3,125
Ellen C. Taaffe	3,125
Paul B. Toms, Jr.	647
Henry G. Williamson, Jr.	3,125

(5) Mses. Jackson and Taaffe each deferred the receipt of their 2020 annual restricted stock award until such time as they leave the Board.

#### **Fiscal 2022 Non-Employee Director Compensation Decisions**

Mr. Toms' non-executive role on the Board began on February 1, 2021, the first day of the Company's 2022 fiscal year, upon his retirement as the Company's Chief Executive Officer. On January 21, 2021 the Board set Mr. Toms' compensation in his role as Chairman of the Company's Board of Directors effective February 1, 2021 as follows:

- **Annual cash retainer.** Consistent with the compensation of other non-employee Board members, Mr. Toms will receive an annual \$48,000 cash retainer for his Board service. The retainer was prorated for the current service year that ends at the Company's annual meeting of shareholders in June 2021, such that the actual cash payout to Mr. Toms for his Board service was \$16,000 for the 2020-2021 service year.
- **Board Chair Stipend.** Consistent with the compensation of other non-employee directors serving in either the Lead Director or Committee Chair positions, Mr. Toms will receive a stipend as non-executive Chair of the Board. Mr. Toms will receive a \$20,000 stipend for his role as non-executive Chair, which was prorated for the current service year that ends at the Company's annual meeting of shareholders in June 2021, such that the actual cash payout to Mr. Toms was \$6,667 for the remainder of the 2020-2021 service year.
- **Fixed equity award.** Consistent with the current compensation of other non-employee directors, Mr. Toms is expected to receive a \$60,000 restricted stock grant at the beginning of the 2021-2022 Board service year beginning in June 2021, but such grant and amount is subject to review at the same time all director compensation components are traditionally reviewed for non-executive directors. The equity award for the remainder of the 2020-2021 service year was prorated such that Mr. Toms received a \$20,000 restricted stock grant for the remainder of the service year.

Ms. Duey was appointed a Director on March 5, 2021 and her compensation will be consistent with that of other non-employee directors. In March 2021, she received a prorated cash retainer of \$12,000 for the remainder of the 2020-2021 service year which ends at the annual meeting of shareholders on June 3, 2021. The equity award for the remainder of the 2020-2021 service year was prorated such that Ms. Duey received a \$15,000 restricted stock grant for the remainder of the service year.

Consistent with the Company's past practices, as an employee and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, Mr. Hoff will not receive any additional compensation for his service as a director.

## REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Audit Committee oversees the Company's financial reporting process on behalf of the Board of Directors. Management has the primary responsibility for the Company's financial statements and the reporting process, including internal control over financial reporting. In fulfilling its oversight responsibilities, the Committee reviewed and discussed the audited financial statements for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2021 with management, including a discussion of the quality and acceptability of accounting principles, the reasonableness of significant judgments, and the clarity of disclosures in the financial statements.

The Committee discussed with the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, who is responsible for expressing an opinion on conformity of those audited financial statements with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, the firm's judgment as to the quality and acceptability of the Company's accounting principles and such other matters as are required to be discussed with the independent registered public accounting firm under the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board. In addition, the Committee has received the written disclosures and letter from the independent registered public accounting firm to the Committee required by Public Company Accounting Oversight Board Auditing Standard 16 regarding the independent registered accounting firms' communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence and has discussed with the independent registered accounting firms its independence from the Company. The Committee has also considered whether the non-audit related services provided by the independent registered public accounting firm are compatible with maintaining the firm's independence and found them to be acceptable.

The Committee met with the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, with and without management present, and discussed the overall scope and results of their audits, their evaluation of the Company's internal control over financial reporting and the overall quality of the Company's financial reporting.

In reliance on the reviews and discussions referred to above, the Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the audited financial statements be included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2021 for filing with the SEC.

W. Christopher Beeler, Jr., Chair  
Maria C. Duey  
Paulette Garafalo  
Tonya H. Jackson  
E. Larry Ryder  
Ellen C. Taaffe  
Henry G. Williamson, Jr.

## REPORT OF THE COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

The Committee has reviewed, and discussed with management, the Compensation Discussion and Analysis that appears below. Based on that review, and the Committee's discussions with management, the Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in this proxy statement.

Paulette Garafalo, Chair  
W. Christopher Beeler, Jr.  
Maria C. Duey  
Tonya H. Jackson  
Ellen C. Taaffe  
Henry G. Williamson, Jr.

### Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation

The Compensation Committee is comprised entirely of the independent directors and none of our executive officers served on the compensation committee or board of any company that employed any member of the Compensation Committee or the Board of Directors as an executive officer.

## Compensation Risk Assessment

As part of its oversight responsibilities, the Compensation Committee, with assistance from management, annually reviews the Company's compensation policies and practices for all employees to determine whether they are reasonably likely to present a material adverse risk to the Company. Their review includes, among other things, a consideration of the incentives that the Company's compensation policies and practices create and factors that may affect the likelihood of excessive risk taking. Based on its most recent review, the Committee concluded that the Company's employee compensation policies and practices are not reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company. For additional information concerning this review, see Management of Executive Compensation-Related Risk on page 34.

### EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

#### Executive Summary

The Compensation Committee of the Board oversees the Company's executive compensation program. More information concerning the composition of the Committee and its authority and responsibilities can be found under Compensation Committee on page 10. The Company's compensation program is designed to attract and retain highly qualified executives, to maintain a stable executive management team, and to reward those senior leaders who contribute significantly to the Company's continued financial growth and profitability in the face of rapidly changing market and global economic forces affecting the Company's business.

The Compensation Discussion and Analysis discusses the compensation program and the compensation decisions made for fiscal 2021 (which ended January 31, 2021) with respect to the following named executive officers. Mr. Townsend was separated from the Company on November 13, 2020.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>
Paul B. Toms, Jr. (1)	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Paul A. Huckfeldt	Chief Financial Officer
Anne J. Smith	Chief Administrative Officer
D. Lee Boone (2)	President Home Meridian Segment
Jeremy R. Hoff (3)	President- Hooker Legacy Brands
Douglas Townsend	Former Co-President Home Meridian Segment

(1) Mr. Toms retired on January 31, 2021, the last business day of the Company's 2021 fiscal year.

(2) Mr. Boone became President of the Home Meridian Segment on November 13, 2020.

(3) Mr. Hoff became Chief Executive Officer on February 1, 2021, the first day of the Company's 2022 fiscal year.

## COMPENSATION HIGHLIGHTS FOR FISCAL 2021

<b>No Adjustment of Base Salary</b>	The Compensation Committee reviewed the base salaries of our named executive officers. In keeping with the practice of not automatically increasing base salaries unless there were significant changes in responsibilities, determined it was in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders to keep the base salary of each executive officer at 2019 level.
<b>Temporary Reductions in Base Salaries</b>	In April 2020, in order to preserve cash and reduce expenses the Compensation Committee determined it was in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders to temporarily reduce the base salary of each executive officer due to the adverse effects of the COVID-19 crises. In July 2020, the Committee restored to previous levels salaries of executive officers effective August 2020 as the disruption was not as severe as the Company originally forecasted.
<b>Authorized Payment of Annual Incentive</b>	The Compensation Committee approved the payout of annual incentive awards to one executive based upon the company's satisfactory achievement of pre-determined performance goals relating to Operating Income, where the Company achieved at least threshold operating income performance in the Company' operating segments.
<b>Authorized 2021 long-term compensation awards</b>	The Compensation Committee awarded long-term compensation in the form of performance stock units tied to pre-established goals relating to earnings per share and also awarded service-based restricted stock units to be delivered exclusively in the form of shares of the Company's common stock to support executive retention.
<b>Authorized long-term retention awards</b>	Due to the adverse effects of COVID-19 on the Company's business, the Compensation Committee authorized long-term retention awards in the form of restricted stock units to be delivered exclusively in the form of shares of the Company's common stock to support executive retention.

### Fiscal 2022 Compensation Decisions

In January 2021, the Compensation Committee increased Mr. Hoff's base salary to \$450,000 effective upon his succession of Mr. Tom's as Chief Executive Officer on February 1, 2021, the first day of the Company's 2022 fiscal year. Additionally, the Committee increased Mr. Boone's base salary effective February 1, 2021 to \$350,000 in consideration of his additional responsibilities upon his promotion to President of the Company's Home Meridian segment in November 2020.

The COVID-19 crisis adversely affected the Company's performance and annual incentive targets were not met for four out of our five executive officers serving at the end of the fiscal year end. Due to the crisis, executive officers' base salaries were temporarily reduced. The negative effects of this extraordinary crisis were pervasive and negatively affected the home furnishings industry, national and global economies and were outside of the control of these officers. Consistent with its policy of not changing annual incentive targets after Board approval and given our strong desire to promote retention of key executives during difficult industry dynamics, the Company awarded long-term retention awards in the form of restricted stock units to be delivered exclusively in the form of shares of the Company's stock to the three executives who did not receive an annual cash incentive for the last fiscal year, except for Mr. Toms who retired on the last day of the Company's 2021 fiscal year. The Compensation Committee believes that the issuance of these

shares is necessary for executive retention and is in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders. These RSUs cliff-vest after three years of service subject to the provisions of the 2020 Stock Incentive Plan.

### Executive Compensation Policies and Practices

Our commitment to strong corporate governance practices extends to the compensation philosophy, programs, and policies established by the Compensation Committee, which include the following governance practices and policies:

What we do	What we don't do
✓ Rigorous goal setting for annual and long-term performance-based compensation	X No excessive perquisites
✓ Pay for performance	X No income tax gross ups
✓ Anti-hedging/pledging policy	X No discretionary bonuses
✓ Claw-back policy	X No adjustments to pre-established bonus targets after Board approval
✓ Assessment of compensation risk	
✓ Engagement with shareholders	
✓ Dual trigger CIC for performance grants and Restricted Stock Unit Awards	
✓ Executive Stock Ownership Guidelines	

### Compensation Philosophy of the Company

The Company's compensation philosophy is guided by the following objectives:

- Attract and retain highly qualified executives who will contribute significantly to the success and financial growth of the Company and enhance value for shareholders;
- Motivate and appropriately reward executives when they achieve the Company's financial and business goals and meet their individual performance objectives; and
- Maintain a stable executive management team to ensure the Company's profitability objectives adapt to:
  - changing consumer preferences,
  - evolving sourcing and distribution options; and
  - broader market factors such as the overall performance of the U.S. economy and the relative strength of housing and home furnishings related activity.

### Compensation Program

The Company's executive compensation program employs several elements of compensation to achieve the objectives of its compensation philosophy. The primary elements of the program are base salary, an annual cash incentive, long-term incentives and supplemental retirement and life insurance benefits. The Company may enter into an employment agreement with an executive officer under specific circumstances, as discussed further below. These elements are structured to compensate executives over three separate timeframes:

- **Base Salary and short-term incentives.** Base salaries are typically set for each calendar year and the annual cash incentive is set for each fiscal year. The annual cash incentive is

determined based on the Company's financial performance during the current fiscal year. The Compensation Committee sets base salaries and potential annual cash incentive amounts for each executive position based on a number of factors, including competitive market data, executive responsibilities, individual performance and the Committee members' business judgment.

- **Longer-term compensation.** Long-term incentives are designed to reward executives if the Company achieves specific performance goals or growth in shareholder value over multi-year periods. The amounts payable to executives under performance incentives vary based on the extent to which the specified goals are achieved or surpassed. Before fiscal 2019, the Company granted long-term incentives in the form of performance awards (delivered in cash or stock) and restricted stock units. Beginning in fiscal 2019, the Company granted long-term incentives in the form of performance stock units or "PSUs" (delivered solely in shares) and restricted stock units. These awards are discussed in greater detail below beginning on page 29.
- **Full career and time-specific compensation.** Supplemental retirement are linked to certain executive's continued employment with the Company to a specified age. Employment agreements and time-based restricted stock units are designed primarily to retain the covered executives for a minimum defined period of time.

The Committee believes the objectives of the Company's executive compensation program can best be attained by structuring the program to provide compensation over these separate timeframes. For example, the Committee views annual and longer-term performance-based compensation as essential to encouraging executives to appropriately balance both the short-term and long-term interests of the Company and its shareholders. In addition, the Committee believes compensation tied to service over a full career or a specific period helps to promote executive retention and thereby allow the Company to maintain a stable management team.

#### ***Fiscal Year 2021 Financial Highlights***

- The severe and pervasive effects of the economic crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic had a material, adverse effect on the Company's fiscal 2021 sales and earnings.
- Demand for the Company's products fell sharply at the outset of the crisis, then later surged, as did the demand for home furnishings in general. The surge in demand led to capacity constraints with the Company's Asian suppliers as it and other importers reacted to increased demand. Consequently, the cost and unavailability of shipping containers and steamship bookings increased exponentially which negatively affected the Company's sales and earnings.
- Consolidated net sales for fiscal 2021 decreased by \$70.7 million or 11.6% as compared to fiscal 2020, from \$610.8 million to \$540.1 million, due primarily to:
  - o a \$58.2 million or 17.1% sales decrease in the Home Meridian segment and to a lesser extent a \$12.0 million or 12.5% decrease in the Domestic Upholstery segment;
  - o a \$1.0 million or 7.9% decrease in All Other net sales; and
  - o essentially flat Hooker Branded segment net sales.
- Approximately 75% of the consolidated net sales decreases happened in the first half of fiscal 2021 when the Company's orders and operations were adversely impacted by the initial severity of the COVID-19 crisis.

- The Company reported a \$14.4 million operating loss in fiscal 2021 compared to \$22.7 million operating income in the prior year period, due principally to \$44.3 million non-cash impairment charges (\$33.7 million net of tax) to write down goodwill and tradenames in the Company's Home Meridian segment and goodwill in the Shenandoah division of its Domestic Upholstery segment.
- The adverse economic effects brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic triggered an intangible asset impairment analysis in the first quarter of fiscal 2021, which required the Company to perform a valuation of its intangible assets. Its stock price was near a six-year low at the impairment measurement date, which occurred at the depth of the COVID-19 crisis to that point and was one of the primary inputs in the valuation analysis that indicated these assets were impaired and it was appropriate to write them down. Consequently, consolidated net loss was \$10.4 million or \$0.88 per diluted share, as compared to \$17.1 million net income or \$1.44 diluted earnings per share in the prior year period.

#### *Fiscal Year 2021 Compensation Decisions*

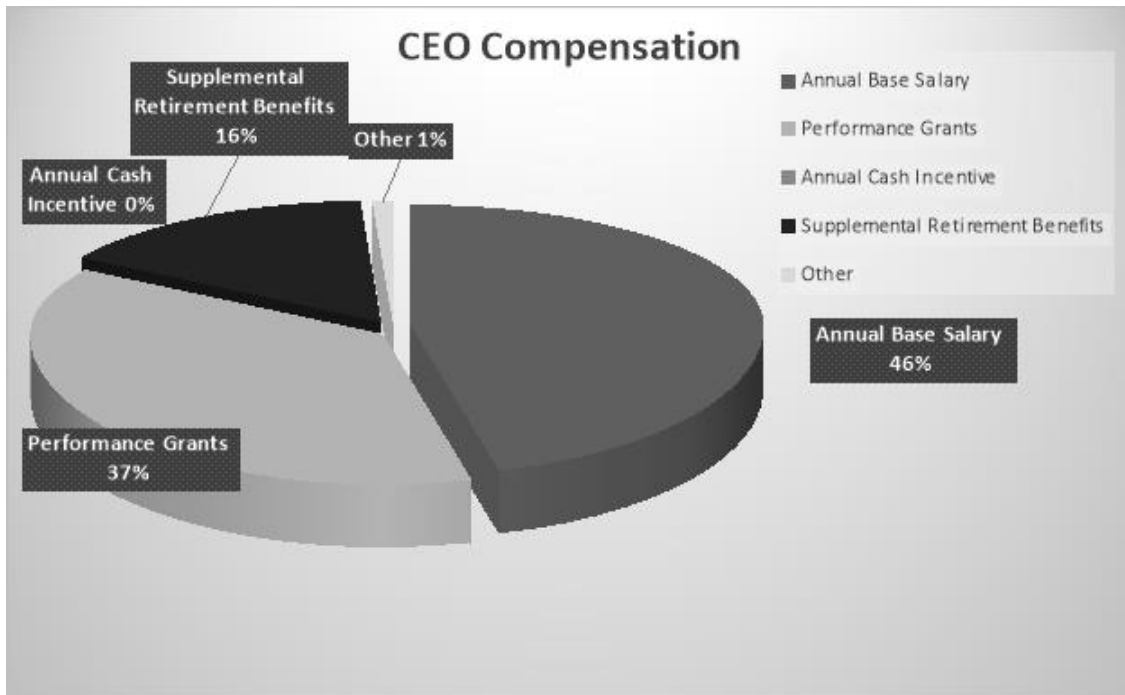
The table below reflects calendar 2020 base salaries and fiscal 2021 annual incentive targets and long-term incentive award targets for our named executive officers approved by the Compensation Committee:

<b>Executive Officer</b>	<b>Base Salary</b>	<b>Temporary Reduction(%)</b>	<b>Temporary Reduction(\$)</b>	<b>Reduced Base Salary</b>	<b>Annual Incentive at Target</b>	<b>Long-term Incentive at Target</b>
Paul B. Toms, Jr.	\$ 450,000	20%	\$ (30,000)	\$ 420,000	\$ 337,500	\$ 337,500
Paul A. Huckfeldt	275,000	20%	(18,333)	256,667	165,000	165,000
Anne J. Smith	275,000	15%	(13,750)	261,250	137,500	165,000
D. Lee Boone	300,000	15%	(15,000)	285,000	150,000	180,000
Jeremy R. Hoff	300,000	15%	(15,000)	285,000	150,000	180,000
Douglas Townsend	300,000	15%	(15,000)	285,000	150,000	180,000

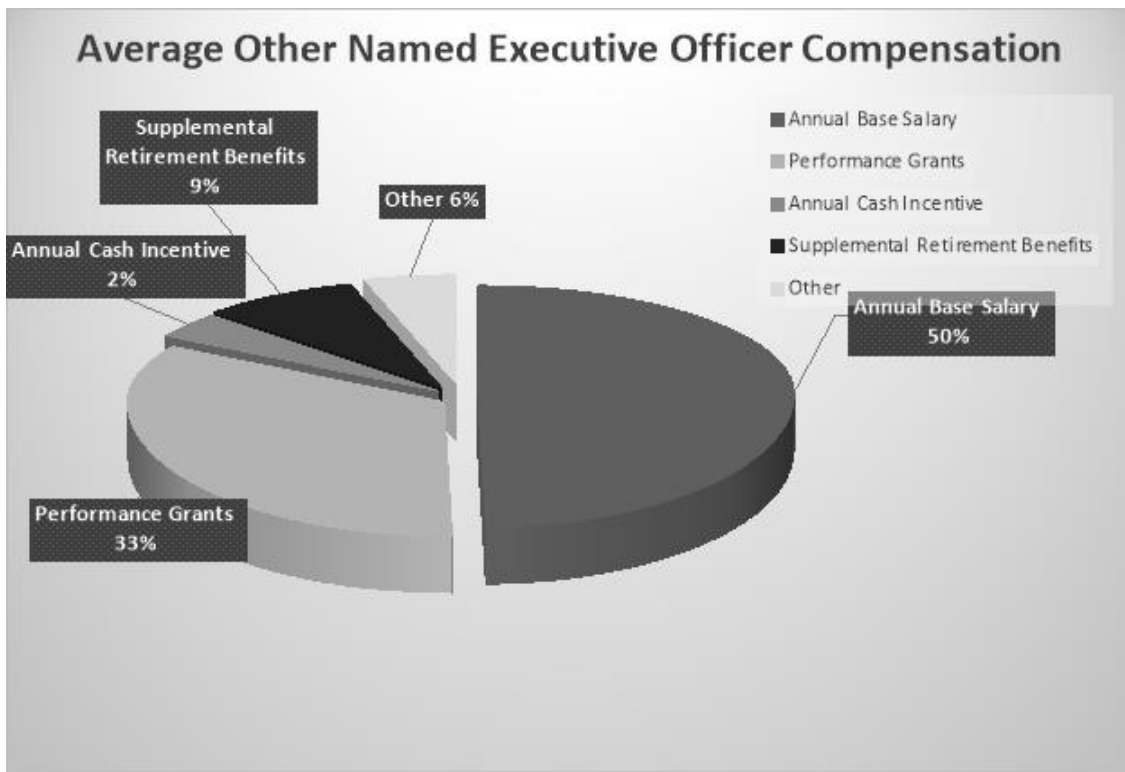
- **Base salary**— Except for a temporary COVID-related decrease, base salaries remained the same during calendar 2020.
- **Temporary reductions in base salary** – In the fiscal 2021 first quarter, due to the adverse effects of the COVID-19 crises and its related negative effect on demand for the Company's products, and at the recommendation of management, the Compensation Committee determined it was in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders to temporarily reduce the base salary of each executive officer. These reductions were part of the Company's broader efforts to reduce operating expenses and conserve cash. Base salaries were reduced starting with the April 2020 monthly payroll. On July 23, 2020, the Board of Directors restored executive officer compensation to previous levels effective August 1, 2020. The executive officers received base salaries at reduced levels for four months.
- **Annual cash incentive** –The Company did not achieve at least the threshold level of its fiscal year 2021 consolidated net income or Home Meridian segment operating income targets but did achieve at least the threshold operating income target for Hooker Legacy (consolidated results less the Home Meridian segment) upon which Mr. Hoff is eligible to receive a bonus. Consequently, Mr. Hoff received an annual cash incentive payment under the cash incentive plan established at the beginning of the year by the Compensation Committee.
- **Long-Term Incentive Awards** – The Company awarded time-based restricted stock units and performance stock units to the named executive officers for the 2021 fiscal year in April 2020.

- These awards will be earned based on satisfaction of performance conditions measured for a performance period that includes the 2021-2023 fiscal years.

**Mix of Total Compensation.** The following charts illustrate the percentage of total compensation for our CEO and our other named executive officers on average, respectively, represented by each element of compensation for the fiscal 2021.







***Process for Determining Executive Compensation***

The Committee sets base salaries, determines the amount and terms of annual cash incentive opportunities and determines long-term incentive compensation and other benefits for the Company’s executive officers. The Committee follows the processes and considers the information discussed below in setting executive compensation.

Competitive Pay Data

Based on Mercer’s executive compensation study prepared in a prior year, the Committee established base salaries for each named executive officer during the first quarter of fiscal 2021 to be effective for the 2020 calendar year. Although the study data was from a prior year, it was deemed satisfactory by the Committee, since the information was used only as a guideline, not a benchmark. Additionally, the Committee reviews the peer group regularly to ensure it continues to be an appropriate guideline. For more information on base salary decisions in fiscal 2021, see “Base salary” under “Fiscal 2021 Compensation Decisions” on page 22.

The Compensation Committee engaged Mercer in 2016 to update the Company’s peer group. Mercer recommended this group because its members shared various financial and operational attributes with the Company, while not being limited to furniture companies. The peer group represents companies in related industries (furniture/household durables/consumer discretionary markets); of a similar size, with annual revenues ranging from 60% to 265% of the Company’s annual revenue; and similar operational complexity. The Board believes these companies represent the type of companies against which the Company competes for management talent. The peer group consists of the following companies:

- American Woodmark Corporation
- Bassett Furniture Industries, Inc.
- Cavco Industries, Inc.
- Culp, Inc.
- Dixie Group, Inc.
- Ethan Allen Interiors, Inc.
- Flexsteel Industries, Inc.
- Haverty Furniture Companies, Inc.
- La-Z-Boy, Inc.
- Lifetime Brands, Inc.
- Nautilus, Inc.
- PGT Innovations, Inc.
- Trex Company, Inc.

The Compensation Committee has used this peer group as one of several factors in making compensation decisions and to establish a baseline from which to set executive compensation (including during fiscal 2021). The Committee compared total compensation as well as the individual compensation elements for each executive officer to the peer group in fiscal 2021. The Committee will refresh the peer group and compensation study in the future, as needed. The Committee does not tie compensation for its executive officers to any particular level or target based on this comparable compensation data. Instead, the Committee considers this pay comparability data as one of many factors when determining the appropriateness of individual elements of compensation, as well as the total compensation, payable to the Company's executive officers.

Other factors considered in setting fiscal 2021 executive compensation were the impact of COVID-19 on business and operations, the temporary reductions in base salary due to the adverse effect of COVID-19, inflation, regional cost-of-living factors and whether there were material changes in executives' duties.

#### Company Performance

Each year the Committee considers which financial performance measures to use in setting annual and longer-term incentive compensation for the executive officers. The Committee has, at various times, linked annual cash incentives to the Company's attainment of specific levels of operating income, pretax income and net income. Longer-term incentives typically have been linked to achievement of a different set of performance measures, such as earnings per share for performance grants. Historically, the Committee has awarded long-term performance grants tied to growth in the Company's earnings per share (EPS), both in absolute terms and relative to EPS growth for the peer group companies. The Committee believes that EPS and EPS growth are currently the most appropriate performance measures for long-term compensation incentives because these metrics lend themselves, in a simple and objective manner, to year-over-year comparisons and to comparison with the financial performance of peer companies. In most cases, other performance measures have been found to behave in a manner consistent with EPS-related measures. Therefore, the Committee does not believe additional criteria would provide a different or enhanced perspective on the Company's performance.

The Committee generally selects performance measures for annual incentive compensation that correspond to financial measures used by management in making day-to-day operating decisions and in setting strategic goals. In addition, these types of measures are used by the Board in evaluating Company performance. The Committee generally consults with the Chief Executive Officer and other senior executives before setting performance levels for annual and longer-term incentive compensation. The input provided by management is one of many factors that Committee considers in establishing the applicable measures and performance levels for incentive compensation. The other factors the Committee considers include the annual operating budget which is approved by the Board. The Board's approval of the annual

budget includes its review of industry and macroeconomic trends, industry sales growth, cost containment and expected capital expenditures.

### Individual Performance

The Committee annually assesses the individual performance of each executive officer and considers it when setting an executive officer's base salary. However, given the modest increases in cost of living in recent years and the Company's emphasis on linking a larger percentage of executives' total compensation to performance-based incentives, the Committee may elect not to increase certain executives' base salaries on an annual basis, instead using potential annual and longer-term incentive-based payments to compensate individual executives. The Committee reserves the right to adjust base salaries as it determines to be appropriate; however, the Committee does not have a practice of automatically providing for annual increases in base salaries and therefore a decision not to increase an executive's base salary is not based on an assessment of an executive's performance. Each executive's performance is measured against specific personal objectives established early in the prior year. The Chief Executive Officer's annual personal objectives are established in consultation with the Committee. Other executive officers establish their individual objectives in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer. These objectives may include both subjective and quantifiable individual and departmental performance and developmental initiatives that are within each officer's area of operation and are consistent with the Company's strategic plans.

The Committee's assessment of each executive officer's performance with respect to these objectives is conducted primarily through conversations with the Chief Executive Officer and a review of Company performance. The Committee believes that consideration of individual performance objectives is important because it creates incentives for executive officers to make specific contributions to the Company's financial growth based on their individual areas of responsibility, and because it allows the Company to reward those specific contributions.

### Allocating Between Compensation Elements

The Committee does not have a fixed standard for determining how an executive officer's total compensation is allocated among the various elements of the Company's compensation program. Instead, the Committee uses a flexible approach so that it can structure the compensation elements in a manner that will, in its judgment, best achieve the specific objectives of the Company's compensation program. However, the Committee believes that a meaningful portion of a named executive officer's compensation should be performance-based.

### ***Shareholder Say-on-Pay Vote***

At the 2020 Annual Meeting, shareholders had the opportunity to approve, in a non-binding advisory vote, the compensation of the Company's named executive officers. This is referred to as a "say-on-pay" proposal. Over 99% of the votes cast on the say-on-pay proposal were voted in favor of the proposal. The Committee believes this vote result reflects general approval of the Company's overall approach to structuring the Company's executive compensation program. Therefore, the Committee did not make any significant changes in the structure of the Company's executive compensation program during fiscal 2021 in response to the 2020 say-on-pay vote. The Compensation Committee will continue to consider the vote results for say-on-pay proposals in future years when making compensation decisions for the Company's named executive officers.

The Board of Directors has determined that the Company's shareholders should vote on a say-on-pay proposal each year, consistent with the preference expressed by the Company's shareholders at the 2017 Annual Meeting. Accordingly, at the 2021 Annual Meeting, shareholders will again have the opportunity to indicate their views on the compensation of the Company's named executive officers by an advisory say-on-pay vote. The Board recommends that you vote FOR the say-on-pay proposal (Proposal Four) at the 2021 Annual Meeting. For more information, see "PROPOSAL FOUR — ADVISORY VOTE TO APPROVE EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION" on page 52 in this proxy statement.

### ***Executive Compensation Decisions for Fiscal Year 2021***

For the 2021 fiscal year, the primary elements of compensation for the named executive officers were:

- base salary (set on a calendar year basis),
- an annual cash incentive opportunity (based on the Company’s fiscal year financial performance),
- long-term equity-based incentives for each named executive officer,
- supplemental retirement benefits for three of the named executive officers, and
- life insurance benefits for one of the named executive officers, for part of the year.

Base Salary

Based on Mercer’s executive compensation study prepared in a prior year, the Committee established base salaries for each named executive officer during the first quarter of fiscal 2021 to be effective for the 2020 calendar year. Although the study data was from a prior year, it was deemed satisfactory by the Committee, since the information was used only as a guideline, not a benchmark. For more information on base salary decisions in fiscal 2021, see “Base salary” under “Fiscal 2021 Compensation Decisions” on page 22.

The Committee’s process for setting base salary and other compensation included an annual review of individual performance and such other relevant factors as accomplishments in the executive’s current role, changes in responsibilities, job performance and the Committee’s assessment of the market rate for these positions. The Committee does not automatically increase base pay annually, but instead bases salary increases on the preceding factors.

Annual Cash Incentive

The Committee believes it is in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders to base the annual cash incentive directly on achievement of an objective performance metric. The Committee generally considers consolidated net income to be the appropriate performance metric for the annual cash incentive for senior management because it believes that items included in net income, such as consolidated income tax expense, discontinued operations, interest expense and other income and expense, reflect upon the appropriateness of management decision-making and therefore provide an effective tool for measuring senior management performance over the course of a fiscal year. However, since the responsibilities of Messrs. Boone, Hoff and Townsend were primarily related to one or multiple components of the Company’s operating segments, the Committee believed it was more appropriate to set performance metrics for each of those named executive officers based on the operating income most closely related to his individual area or areas of responsibility. Therefore, annual cash incentives for Messrs. Boone and Townsend were based on Home Meridian segment operating income. Mr. Hoff’s annual cash incentive was based on the Hooker Legacy (Consolidated results less the Home Meridian segment) operating income. For more information on fiscal 2021 annual cash incentive decisions, see “Annual Cash Incentive” discussion under “Fiscal 2021 Compensation Decisions” on page 22.

The Committee approved an annual cash incentive for the 2021 fiscal year. Messrs. Toms and Huckfeldt and Ms. Smith had the opportunity to earn a payment, expressed as a percentage of his or her calendar year 2020 base salary, if the Company achieved 80% or more of its fiscal 2021 consolidated net income target. Messrs. Boone, Hoff and Townsend had the opportunity to earn a payment, expressed as a percentage of their calendar year 2019 base salary, if their respective segment achieved 80% or more of its fiscal 2021 operating income target. No cash bonus would be payable unless at least 80% of the consolidated net income target (in the case of Messrs. Toms and Huckfeldt and Ms. Smith) or segment’s operating income targets (in the case of Messrs. Boone, Hoff and Townsend) were met. The bonus opportunity was capped at a maximum amount if the Company reached 125% or more of its consolidated net income target (or segment or segment component operating income) for fiscal year 2021. For net income or operating incomes achieved at levels between the target percentages shown in the table below, a bonus percentage is interpolated such that each 1% increase in net income or operating income between the target levels results in additional bonus earned.

Annual cash incentive targets are established based on budgeted net income and segment/ segment component operating income. Budgeted net income and operating income are established by management in its annual operating budget, which is approved by the Board.

Target payouts for each named executive were established based on a number of factors including:

- Historical target payouts for each executive;
- data contained in a Mercer compensation study from a prior fiscal year;
- general business knowledge and experience of the Committee’s members;
- other general compensation information available to the Committee, such as perceived contribution to the Company’s success, including areas outside the executive’s core functions; and
- the short-to-medium term total realizable compensation for each executive.

As discussed above, the Mercer study reflected total compensation for similar positions at similarly situated companies with which the Company would expect to compete for executive talent. The Committee evaluated each executive’s total compensation, with an emphasis on shifting a greater share of the executive’s total compensation to incentive-based pay and also considered the executives’ specific roles, responsibilities and experience, as well as other elements of each executive’s compensation arrangement and considered the mix of short- and long-term elements in each executive’s overall compensation plan. Generally, the greater an executive’s responsibilities, the larger the potential award. For example, Mr. Toms, the most senior executive was awarded a larger potential incentive award than were other senior executives due to his senior standing within the Company and his larger share of responsibilities. The incentive opportunities were structured such that if consolidated net income or segment or segment component operation income does not meet the target, the named executive officers would receive a reduced payment or no payment, but if consolidated net income or segment of segment component operating exceeded the target, incentive payments would increase at a rate greater than the increase in net income. This was designed to recognize exemplary consolidated net income achievement. In no event would an incentive payment be earned if less than 80% of the target level was attained.

The award opportunities for each executive were as follows (expressed as a percentage of 2020 calendar year base salary):

Executive Officer	If the Company Attains the following Percentages of Performance Target:					
	<80%	80%	90%	100%	110%	125%
Paul B. Toms, Jr.	0%	37.5%	67.5%	75.0%	93.8%	123.8%
Paul A. Huckfeldt	0%	30.0%	54.0%	60.0%	75.0%	99.0%
Anne J. Smith	0%	25.0%	45.0%	50.0%	62.5%	82.5%
D. Lee Boone	0%	25.0%	45.0%	50.0%	62.5%	82.5%
Jeremy R. Hoff	0%	25.0%	45.0%	50.0%	62.5%	82.5%
Douglas Townsend	0%	25.0%	45.0%	50.0%	62.5%	82.5%

Each additional percentage of net income realized between the percentages shown above is interpolated, such that each additional percentage of net income realized between the threshold amounts shown above results in a larger bonus payout, as shown in the table below:

	Interpolation per 1% of increased earnings:			
	Between 80-89% of Target Net Income	Between 90-99% of Target Net Income	Between 100- 109% of Target Net Income	Between 110- 125% of Target Net Income
All executive officers	4%	1%	2.50%	2.67%

The net income target for the 2021 fiscal year was set at \$34.1 million on a consolidated basis. The net income target had previously been approved by the Board in consultation with management, and after considering the Company's profit potential, the impact of national and international economic conditions on the Company and the home furnishings industry as a whole. Based on these factors, the Committee concluded that the target and threshold levels were appropriate to motivate and appropriately reward executive officers to attain the desired level of performance for fiscal 2021.

The 80% threshold performance level for our annual cash incentive was believed to be an achievable goal. The 100-124% target performance level was believed to be aggressive, but attainable. Performance at or above the 125% level was believed to be realizable, but only with exceptional performance.

Only Hooker Legacy achieved at least the threshold operating income target set by the Committee for fiscal 2021, achieving 83% of its \$33.8 million operating income target. This resulted in payments at the percentage indicated. As a result, the named executive officers received annual cash incentive payments as follows:

Executive Officer	Fiscal 2021 Annual Cash Incentive Earned
Paul B. Toms, Jr.	-
Paul A. Huckfeldt	-
Anne J. Smith	-
D. Lee Boone	-
Jeremy R. Hoff	\$ 93,000
Douglas Townsend (1)	-

(1) Mr. Townsend separated from the Company on November 13, 2020 and was not eligible for an award.

#### Long-Term Incentives

During fiscal 2021, consistent with the Committee's objective of giving greater weight to the performance-based element of total compensation, the Committee granted two types of long-term incentive awards for the performance period beginning in fiscal year 2021. The awards were designed to directly link a significant portion of a named executive's compensation to growth in value of the Company and to further enhance existing retention incentives under the Company's executive compensation program.

The first of the two types of awards was a Performance-based Restricted Stock Unit ("PSU") grant and the second type of award was a service-based restricted stock unit. The second type is discussed on page 30 and below.

Before fiscal 2019, the Committee awarded performance-based grants payable in cash or shares instead of performance-based restricted stock units (referred to as "PSUs"), which are settled in shares of

common stock of the Company. Performance –based grants worked nearly identically to the way PSUs currently work, except that:

- performance-based grants could be paid in a combination of cash or shares of the Company’s common stock at the discretion of the committee when vested; PSUs are paid in shares of the Company’s common stock only, with shares withheld at vesting to pay taxes at the statutory rate; and
- the number of shares awarded under the performance-based grants was determined by dividing the dollar amount of the award by the settlement-date fair market value of the Company’s stock; the number of PSUs awarded is determined by dividing the dollar amount of the award by the grant date fair market value of the company’s stock.

The Committee believed it was in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders to award PSUs because they believed an award whose shares were determined based on the grant date-date fair market value of the Company’s stock instead of the payout or settlement-date fair market value of the Company stock, would further promote longer-term thinking among its named executive officers and better align its interests with those of the Company’s shareholders.

#### *Performance-based Restricted Stock Unit*

Each performance-based RSU entitles the executive officer to receive one share of the Company’s common stock based on the achievement of two specified performance conditions if the executive officer remains continuously employed by the Company through the end of the three-year performance period (subject to limited exceptions). One target is based on annual average growth in the Company’s EPS over the performance period and the other target is based on EPS growth over the performance period compared to that of the peer companies described at page 24. The PSUs vest subject to the Company’s attainment of pre-established financial goals related to the sum of two amounts, (1) the Company’s absolute EPS Growth and (2) relative EPS growth, over a three-year performance period that began February 3, 2020 and ends January 29, 2023, as approved by the Committee. The payout or settlement of the PSUs shall be made in shares of the Company’s common stock (based on the fair market value of the shares of the Company’s common stock on the date of settlement or payment). The PSUs do not convey any voting rights or dividend or dividend equivalent rights to the executive officer.

In 2020, the Compensation Committee reviewed its experience with the Company’s long-term incentive plan and determined that it was in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders to re-align the relative or “peer performance” component of the Company’s Long-Term Incentive plan such that a smaller, “threshold” award would be easier to achieve, but that larger awards at target and at maximum would require better relative EPS growth for each performance period:

- A threshold award will be paid at half of target if the Company’s relative EPS growth is between the 40<sup>th</sup> percentile but less than the 59<sup>th</sup> percentile. Under the prior plan, the threshold began at 50<sup>th</sup> percentile and ended at less than the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile;
- An award at plan target will be paid if relative EPS growth is between the 60<sup>th</sup> percentile but less than the 79<sup>th</sup> percentile. Under the prior plan, an award at target was paid for performance between the 50<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> percentiles; and
- An award at plan maximum will be paid if relative EPS growth is equal to or greater than the 80<sup>th</sup> percentile. Under the prior plan, an award at target required relative EPS growth of equal or greater to the 75% percentile.

The amount set forth in the table below is based on the average annual growth of the Company’s fully diluted EPS from continuing operations over the performance period. The Company’s EPS growth must average at least 5% annually over the performance period for a payment to be made.

**Payout in Shares of Company Stock Based on  
EPS Growth (%) for Performance Period**

<b>Executive Officer</b>	<b>Threshold</b>	<b>Target</b>			<b>Maximum</b>
	<b>5%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>25%</b>
Paul B. Toms, Jr.	3,031	9,092	12,123	15,154	18,184
Paul A. Huckfeldt	1,185	3,556	4,741	5,927	7,112
Anne J. Smith	1,185	3,556	4,741	5,927	7,112
D. Lee Boone	1,078	3,233	4,311	5,389	6,467
Jeremy R. Hoff	1,078	3,233	4,311	5,389	6,467
Douglas Townsend	1,078	3,233	4,311	5,389	6,467

The amount set forth in the table below is based on the average annual growth of the Company's EPS over the performance period relative to a group of specified peer companies. However, if the Company's EPS growth is not positive for the performance period, this payment will be capped at the amount for the 50th percentile.

**Payout in Shares of Company Stock Based on  
Relative EPS Growth for Performance Period**

<b>Executive Officer</b>		<b>Threshold</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
	<b>Less than 40th percentile</b>	<b>40 to 59th percentile, but less than 59th percentile</b>	<b>60th percentile, but less than 79th percentile</b>	<b>Equal to or greater than 80th percentile</b>
Paul B. Toms, Jr.	-	9,092	12,123	18,184
Paul A. Huckfeldt	-	3,556	4,741	7,112
Anne J. Smith	-	3,556	4,741	7,112
D. Lee Boone	-	3,232	4,310	6,465
Jeremy R. Hoff	-	3,232	4,310	6,465
Douglas Townsend	-	3,232	4,310	6,465

The Committee selected EPS as the measure for the performance targets because EPS, and especially changes in EPS, directly reflect changes in the value of the Company over time, which the Committee believes best reflects the long-term interests of the shareholders. Using a simple, well-defined performance measure for these awards reduces the risk of manipulating that measure for short-term gain and reduces the risk of unintended consequences that could result from paying bonuses based on factors other than earnings, such as sales growth or non-financial measures which could misalign shareholder and management objectives. For example, a focus on sales growth or a non-financial metric such as customer satisfaction could provide an incentive to increase sales through greater discounting or create excessively generous return and allowance policies at the expense of overall profitability.



### Restricted Stock Units

The Committee also awarded to each named executive officer (other than Mr. Toms) restricted stock units that will vest if the executive remains continuously employed with the Company (subject to limited exceptions) until the three-year anniversary date of each grant which is April 7, 2023. The awards may be paid in shares of company stock, cash or a combination of both, as determined by the Committee in its discretion. They are designed to encourage retention and to provide an incentive for increasing shareholder value. The number of RSUs awarded to each executive officer is set forth in the table below:

<b>Executive Officer</b>	<b>Number of RSUs</b>
Paul B. Toms, Jr.	-
Paul A. Huckfeldt	2,371
Anne J. Smith	2,371
D. Lee Boone	4,310
Jeremy R. Hoff	4,310
Douglas Townsend	4,310

The Committee did not award restricted stock to Mr. Toms because it determined that the Supplemental Retirement Income Plan (“SRIP”) provided sufficient retention incentives for him.

### Supplemental Retirement Benefits

Messrs. Toms and Huckfeldt and Ms. Smith participate in the Company’s Supplemental Retirement Income Plan (“SRIP”). The SRIP is a non-qualified, unfunded supplemental retirement plan that provides a monthly benefit equal to a specified percentage of the participant’s average base salary plus annual bonus for the 60-consecutive month period preceding his termination of employment (referred to as his or her “Final Average Earnings”). Messrs. Toms and Huckfeldt and Ms. Smith are each eligible to receive a monthly benefit equal to 50%, 25% and 25%, respectively, of their Final Average Earnings. However, in November 2019 the Compensation Committee and the full Board authorized an amendment to the SRIP freezing Mr. Toms’ Final Average Earnings at \$640,580. Therefore, the maximum annual payment to Mr. Toms under the SRIP plan will be \$320,290 per year at his retirement, subject to fulfilling his commitment to assist the Board in implementation of a CEO succession plan. For all executives, the benefit is paid for 15 years following the participant’s retirement. As a general matter, a participant is not entitled to receive any benefit under the SRIP unless they remain continuously employed with the Company to age 60. At age 60, the participant becomes vested in 75% of their SRIP benefit and in 5% increments each following year until becoming 100% vested at age 65, assuming the participant remains continuously employed to those dates.

The objective of the SRIP is to create incentives for covered employees to remain employed with the Company over the balance of their careers, reward extended service with the Company and to balance short-term and long-term decision making, thereby enhancing the stability of the management team and allowing for predictability in succession planning. In addition, the Committee has determined that the SRIP helps mitigate compensation-related risk as discussed on page 34.

Each participant’s benefit in the SRIP will become fully vested, regardless of age, and the present value of those benefits will be paid in a lump sum upon a change in control of the Company. The Committee believes that this provision further enhances retention by providing assurance to employees that the benefits promised under the SRIP will be paid if the Company comes under new ownership or control. The amounts to which participating named executive officers would be entitled to receive under the SRIP and additional information concerning the SRIP can be found in the Pension Benefits table on page 41 and Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control on page 42.

Messrs. Boone and Hoff do not, and Mr. Townsend did not, participate in the SRIP. They have been provided other retention incentives under their employment agreements tailored to their specific employment circumstances.

#### Employment Agreements

The Committee has not made a practice of offering employment agreements, however in certain circumstances employment agreements may help the Company achieve the objectives of its compensation program and its other business goals. Therefore, the Committee assesses on a case-by-case basis whether it may be appropriate to enter into employment or separation agreements with executive officers.

The Committee previously determined that employment agreements were not needed for Messrs. Toms and Huckfeldt because the SRIP and long-term incentive plan served as sufficient retention incentives for them.

The Company entered into employment agreements with Ms. Smith and Messrs. Boone and Hoff during fiscal 2019.

Ms. Smith currently serves as the Company's Chief Administrative Officer and President-Domestic Upholstery. She is viewed as key to the Company's success in the near-to-medium term. While Ms. Smith participates in the SRIP, she is not yet vested. Given these facts, the Committee determined that an employment agreement, which includes a non-compete agreement, offered to secure an employment commitment from Ms. Smith, was appropriate.

Mr. Boone currently serves as President of the Company's Home Meridian segment. Mr. Hoff served as the President of the Company's Hooker Branded segment until his promotion to Chief Executive Officer on February 1, 2021. Messrs. Boone and Hoff were viewed as executives key to the near-to-medium term success of their respective segments' sales and operations. Additionally, since Messrs. Boone and Hoff do not participate in the SRIP, the Committee determined that an additional incentive was needed. With this in mind, the Committee determined that employment agreements, which include non-compete agreements, offered to secure employment commitments from Messrs. Boone and Hoff, were appropriate.

For information regarding the terms of these employment agreements, see "Employment Agreements and Other Employment Terms" on page 37.

#### Other Benefits

The Company maintains a tax-qualified 401(k) savings plan for all of its eligible employees, including the named executive officers. The plan provides for Company matching contributions, which are fully vested after two years of continuous service. The Company's other benefit plans include health care, dental and vision insurance, group life insurance, disability insurance and tuition assistance. The named executive officers participate in these plans on the same basis as other eligible employees.

#### *Tax and Accounting Implications of Executive Compensation*

Our Compensation Committee believes that shareholder interests are best served if their discretion and flexibility in awarding compensation is not restricted, even though some compensation awards may result in non-deductible compensation expenses. However, our Compensation Committee does not anticipate a shift away from variable or performance-based compensation payable to our executive officers in the future, nor do we anticipate applying less rigor in the process by which we establish performance goals or evaluate performance against such pre-established goals, with respect to compensation paid to our NEOs. In addition, accounting considerations are one of many factors that our Compensation Committee considers in determining compensation mix and amount.

#### *Incentive Compensation Recoupment Policy*

The Board of Directors previously adopted a "clawback" policy called the Incentive Compensation Recoupment Policy, in which the Board has the authority to pursue recovery of incentive compensation in the event of:

- an accounting restatement;

- a material error in a compensation measure; or
- fraudulent or intentional misconduct.

This policy does not limit the legal remedies the Company may seek against any employee for fraudulent or illegal activity. Further, this policy was not adopted in response to any particular concerns, but rather to align the Company's compensation practices with observed best practices.

#### *Management of Executive Compensation-Related Risk*

The Company's executive compensation program is designed to create incentives for its executives to achieve its annual and longer-term business objectives. The Committee considers how the individual elements of executive compensation, and the executive compensation program as a whole, could potentially encourage executives, either individually or as a group, to make excessively risky business decisions at the expense of long-term shareholder value. In order to address this potential risk, the Committee annually reviews the risk characteristics of the Company's executive compensation programs generally and considers methods for mitigating such risk. The Committee considers the following characteristics of the Company's executive compensation program as factors that help mitigate such risk:

- The Committee has authority under the Company's Incentive Compensation Recoupment, or "clawback", policy described above;
- the Committee has the unlimited authority to reduce long-term performance grant awards or pay no award at all;
- long-term performance grants are performance-based, which aligns compensation with the interests of our shareholders;
- overall compensation is balanced between fixed and variable pay, and variable pay is linked to annual performance and performance over multi-year periods;
- the fixed compensation provided under our SRIP to certain executive officers helps avoid the potential for excess leverage and allows for longer service conditions than typical variable pay arrangements, thereby enhancing retention and management continuity;
- the multi-year cliff-vesting feature of restricted stock units promotes long-term retention, helps to mitigate inappropriate short-term risk taking and helps to align management and shareholder interests;
- profitability goals, which serve as inputs for variable annual cash incentive compensation and long-term performance grants, are approved by the board;
- the long-term performance grants have been based on cumulative absolute and relative EPS growth over multi-year periods, which helps reduce the potential for short-term focus at the expense of longer-term growth;
- a consistent compensation philosophy has been applied year-over-year and does not change significantly with short-term changes in business conditions;
- open dialogue among management, the Committee and the Board regarding executive compensation policies and practices and the appropriate incentives to use in achieving short-term and long-term performance targets; and
- other general risk mitigating factors, including:
  - quarterly reviews of the Company's results of operations and financial condition;
  - quarterly review of management's periodic risk assessment report;
  - quarterly review of management's Enterprise Risk Management report;
  - annual review of management's compensation risk assessment;

- executive sessions at all committee meetings, including executive session with the Company's independent auditor; and
- a fairly flat organizational structure, which promotes knowledge sharing and risk awareness by members of senior management.

#### *Other Policies and Practices*

*Cash Incentives.* The Committee has adopted certain guidelines for administering annual cash incentive compensation. Generally, an executive must remain employed to the last day of a fiscal year to be eligible to receive an annual cash incentive payment for that fiscal year. However, executives who terminate employment during the last quarter of a fiscal year due to death or disability, or who retire after they have attained age 55 and completed 10 years of service, are entitled to receive the same payment that they would have received had they remained employed to the end of the fiscal year. Executives who meet either of these requirements and who terminate employment in the second or third quarter of a fiscal year are entitled to receive 50% or 75%, respectively, of the payment they would have received had they remained employed to the end of the fiscal year. The guidelines establish procedures for the Committee to review and approve annual cash incentive determinations after the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer confirm whether the performance conditions for the fiscal year have been achieved and whether any other applicable conditions have been met for that fiscal year.

*Stock Ownership Guidelines.* The Committee adopted stock ownership requirements in April 2019 such that the Chairman & CEO is required to hold at least three-times his base salary in Company stock and each other executive officer is required to hold two-times his or her base salary, as measured by the Company's closing stock price as of the end of the most recently completed fiscal year. Each executive officer is allowed six years to accumulate the required number of shares. Since the 2013 fiscal year, the Committee has approved restricted share units and performance grants for executive officers, which may be paid in shares of Common Stock, cash or both if the applicable service and performance requirements are met.

*Hedging Policy.* Executive officers, along with directors and certain other "key insiders," are prohibited from engaging in certain types of transactions related to our Common Stock, including zero-cost collars and forward stock sales, as well as transactions in derivative securities, using margin accounts and pledging shares as collateral. See the discussion on page 14 for additional details regarding prohibited transactions.

## Summary Compensation Table

The following table sets forth the compensation for services in all capacities to the Company for the three fiscal years ended January 31, 2021 of the persons who were the Company's named executive officers that year.

<u>Name and Principal Position</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Salary</u> (\$)(1)	<u>Bonus</u> (\$)	<u>Stock Awards</u> (\$)(2)	<u>Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation</u> (\$)(3)	<u>Change in Pension Value and Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation Earnings</u> (\$)(4)	<u>All Other Compensation</u> (\$)(5)	<u>Total</u> (\$)
Paul B. Toms, Jr., Chairman and CEO	2021	424,629	-	337,500	-	150,823	10,607	\$ 923,559
	2020	444,167	-	337,500	-	764,385	19,523	1,565,575
	2019	415,000	-	249,000	289,463	547,337	39,086	1,539,886
Paul A. Huckfeldt, CFO and Sr. VP Fin. and Acctg.	2021	257,292	-	165,000	-	118,498	9,511	550,301
	2020	270,833	-	165,000	-	210,354	10,379	656,566
	2019	250,000	-	150,000	104,625	103,290	10,164	618,079
Anne J. Smith, CAO, Sr. VP Administration	2021	261,560	-	165,000	-	114,444	9,661	550,665
	2020	270,833	-	165,000	-	160,511	10,379	606,723
	2019	237,500	-	100,000	93,000	70,875	9,775	511,150
D. Lee Boone, President – Home Meridian segment	2021	285,000	-	180,000	-	-	9,606	474,606
	2020	300,000	-	180,000	-	-	10,306	490,306
	2019	287,500	-	120,000	60,000	-	10,099	477,599
Jeremy R. Hoff, President-Hooker Branded Segment	2021	285,511	-	180,000	93,000	-	10,356	568,867
	2020	300,000	-	180,000	105,000	-	10,306	595,306
	2019	260,154	-	120,000	150,000	-	7,821	537,975
Douglas Townsend, Former Co-President – Home Meridian segment (6)	2021	236,538	-	180,000	-	-	112,975	529,513
	2020	300,000	-	180,000	-	-	10,306	490,306
	2019	293,333	-	120,000	60,000	-	10,178	483,511

(1) Amounts shown represent base salary paid during the fiscal year before any deductions into the Company's 401(k) plan. Annual base salary adjustments generally become effective at the beginning of each calendar year and do not coincide with the beginning of a fiscal year.

(2) For Mr. Toms, this amount is the grant date fair value of the three-year performance grant that was awarded to him in fiscal 2021. For the other named executives, this amount is the sum of the grant date fair value of (a) the restricted stock units and (b) three-year performance grants that were awarded to the named executive officers in fiscal 2021. The value of these awards was determined in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718. The three-year performance grants shown were computed assuming that the probable level of performance would be achieved (15% EPS growth and relative EPS growth at the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile for the performance period) and excluded the impact of estimated forfeitures related to service-based vesting conditions. For more information regarding the restricted stock units and the three-year performance grants, refer to the Grants of Plan-Based Awards table on page 38 and to the Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End table on page 40. The value of the PSU awards to our named executive officers assuming the maximum level of performance is achieved are as follows: \$506,250 (Toms), \$197,994 (Huckfeldt), \$197,994 (Smith), \$180,007 (Boone), \$180,007 (Hoff) and \$180,007 (Townsend). For more information regarding the calculation of restricted stock unit and performance grant values, refer to note 14 of the Company's consolidated financial statements included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2021 (the "2021 Form 10-K"), as filed with the SEC.

- (3) This column shows amounts earned under the annual cash incentive program, if any. For more information regarding the terms of the annual cash incentives for fiscal year 2021, see the Executive Compensation discussion at page 22.
- (4) This column shows the change in the present value of the named executive officer’s accumulated benefit under the Supplemental Retirement Income Plan (“SRIP”) at the earliest full benefit retirement age. These changes in present value are not directly in relation to final payout potential and can vary significantly year-over-year based on (i) promotions and corresponding changes in salary; (ii) other one-time adjustments to salary or other reasons; (iii) actual age versus predicted age at retirement; (iv) the discount rate used to determine present value of benefit; and (v) other relevant factors. A decrease in the discount rate results in an increase in the present value of the accumulated benefit without any increase in the benefits payable to the NEO at retirement and an increase in the discount rate has the opposite effect. The numbers reported are pension accounting values and were not realized by the named executive officers during the relevant fiscal year. None of the named executive officers received above-market or preferential earnings on compensation that was deferred on a non-tax-qualified basis. Messrs. Boone, Hoff and Townsend do not participate in the SRIP.
- (5) All Other Compensation for fiscal year 2021 includes amounts reimbursed for disability income insurance premiums, matching contributions to the Company’s 401(k) plan, and severance and stock awards vested in connection with Mr. Townsend’s separation.

Name	Disability Income Insurance Premium Reimbursement	401(k) Match	Severance	RSU Awards Vested at Separation	Total
Paul B. Toms, Jr.	\$ 506	\$ 10,101	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,607
Paul A. Huckfeldt	506	9,005	-	-	9,511
Anne J. Smith	506	9,155	-	-	9,661
D. Lee Boone	506	9,100	-	-	9,606
Jeremy R. Hoff	506	9,850	-	-	10,356
Douglas Townsend (1)	506	8,279	63,462	40,728	112,975

(1) Mr. Townsend separated from the Company on November 13, 2020. The amount shown in the “RSU Awards Vested at Separation” column represented 1,369 shares of RSU vested at value of \$40,728 in connection with his separation.

#### Employment Agreements and Other Employment Terms

The Company entered into employment agreements with Ms. Smith and Messrs. Boone, Hoff and Townsend on June 4, 2018, each of which provides for an indefinite term and sets forth the executive’s annual base salary rate (\$275,000 for Ms. Smith and \$300,000 for each of Messrs. Boone, Hoff and Townsend) subject to future adjustment to ensure consistency with the range of salaries for officers at other companies with similar responsibilities. The agreements also set forth each executive’s short-term incentive target opportunity, expressed as a percentage annual base salary (40% for each executive), as well as each executive’s long-term incentive target opportunity, also expressed as a percentage of annual base salary (40% for each executive). The short-term and long-term incentive programs in which these executives currently participate are further described beginning on pages 27 and 29. The agreements further provide that each executive is eligible to participate in any other benefit program offered or generally made available by the Company for its management employees. In addition to these provisions, as well as provisions addressing payments to each executive in the event of death, disability and termination of employment absent “cause,” the agreements include customary provisions addressing confidentiality, non-

disclosure, non-competition and non-solicitation. For additional discussion regarding the terms of these employment agreements, see Potential Payments upon Termination (specifically Involuntary Termination of Employment Absent Cause) which begins on page 42.

## Grants of Plan-Based Awards

The following table sets forth information concerning individual grants of awards made under the Stock Incentive Plans during fiscal 2021:

Name	Award Type	Grant Date for Equity Incentive Plan and Stock Awards	Estimated Possible Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards(1)			Estimated Future Payouts Under Equity Incentive Plan Awards (2)			All Other Stock Awards: Number of Units (3)	Grant Date Fair Value Stock Awards (\$)
			Threshold (\$)	Target (\$)	Maximum (\$)	Threshold (\$)	Target (\$)	Maximum (\$)		
Paul B. Toms, Jr.	Annual Cash Incentive Performance Grant	4/7/2020	\$ 168,750	\$ 337,500	\$ 556,875	\$ 168,750	\$ 337,500	\$ 506,250	\$ -	\$ 337,500 (4)
Paul A. Huckfeldt	Annual Cash Incentive Performance Grant	4/7/2020	82,500	165,000	272,250	65,998	131,996	197,994		131,996 (4)
	RSU Grant	4/7/2020							2,371	33,004 (5)
Anne J. Smith	Annual Cash Incentive Performance Grant	4/7/2020	68,750	137,500	226,875	65,998	131,996	197,994		131,996 (4)
	RSU Grant	4/7/2020							2,371	33,004 (5)
D. Lee Boone	Annual Cash Incentive Performance Grant	4/7/2020	75,000	150,000	247,500	60,002	120,005	180,007		120,005 (4)
	RSU Grant	4/7/2020							4,310	59,995 (5)
Jeremy R. Hoff	Annual Cash Incentive Performance Grant	4/7/2020	75,000	150,000	247,500	60,002	120,005	180,007		120,005 (4)
	RSU Grant	4/7/2020							4,310	59,995 (5)
Douglas Townsend	Annual Cash Incentive Performance Grant	4/7/2020	75,000	150,000	247,500	60,002	120,005	180,007		120,005 (4)
	RSU Grant	4/7/2020							4,310	59,995 (5)

- (1) Represents the estimated payouts under annual cash incentive program for the 2021 fiscal year, as of the time those incentives were granted to the named executive officers. For additional discussion regarding annual cash incentives and the actual amounts paid to the named officers for fiscal 2021, refer to the Compensation Discussion and Analysis which begins on page 18, including Annual Cash Incentive on page 27 and the Summary Compensation table on page 36.
- (2) Represents the estimated future payouts under the performance grants awarded to the named executive officers in fiscal 2021. For additional discussion regarding these performance grants, refer to Compensation Discussion and Analysis, which begins on page 18, including Long-Term Performance Incentive on page 29 and the Summary Compensation Table on page 36.
- (3) This is the number of service based RSUs granted to the named executive officer. Each RSU entitles the named executive to receive one share of the Company's common stock (or, at the discretion of the Committee cash based on the fair market value of a share of the Company's common stock on the date payment is made or both) if he remains continuously employed with the Company through the end of three-year service periods that end April 7, 2023. In addition to the service-based vesting requirement, 100% of an executive officer's RSUs will vest upon a change of control of the Company and a prorated number of the RSUs will vest upon the death, disability or retirement of the executive officer.
- (4) Represents the three-year performance grants that were awarded to the named executive officers in fiscal 2021. The three-year performance grants shown were computed assuming that the probable level of performance would be achieved (15% EPS growth and relative EPS growth at the 50th percentile for the performance period) and excluded the impact of estimated forfeitures related to service-based vesting conditions. The maximum amount payable under these awards would occur if the Company achieved 25% or more EPS growth and relative EPS growth at the 75th percentile or greater for the performance period. Payouts under the maximum

this payout scenario would be: Toms \$506,250; Huckfeldt \$197,994; Smith \$197,994; Boone \$180,007; Hoff \$180,007; and Townsend \$180,007.

- (5) The grant date fair value of each RSU is based on the market price of the Company's common stock on the grant date, reduced by the present value of the dividends expected to be paid on the shares during the service period, discounted at the appropriate risk-free rate of return. For more information concerning the calculation of performance grant fair values, refer to note 14 of the Company's consolidated financial statements included in the Company's 2021 Form 10-K.



## Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End

The following table sets forth information concerning outstanding equity awards, which consist of performance grants and restricted stock units, held by the named executive officers at the end of fiscal 2021. There were no stock options outstanding as of the end of fiscal

Name	Grant Date	Number of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested(1)	Market Value of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (\$) (2)	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Market or Payout Value of Unearned Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not Vested \$(3)
Paul B. Toms, Jr.	5/7/2018	(1)		
	4/17/2019	(1)		225,000
	4/7/2020	(1)		112,500
Paul A. Huckfeldt	5/7/2018	(1)		
	5/7/2018	(2)	800	24,104
	4/17/2019	(1)		88,000
	4/17/2019	(2)	1,108	33,384
	4/7/2020	(1)		44,000
	4/7/2020	(2)	2,371	71,438
Anne J. Smith	5/7/2018	(1)		
	5/7/2018	(2)	533	16,059
	4/17/2019	(1)		88,000
	4/17/2019	(2)	1,108	33,384
	4/7/2020	(1)		44,000
	4/7/2020	(2)	2,371	71,438
D. Lee Boone	5/7/2018	(1)		
	5/7/2018	(2)	1,056	31,817
	4/17/2019	(1)		80,392
	4/17/2019	(2)	1,995	60,109
	4/7/2020	(1)		40,002
	4/7/2020	(2)	4,310	129,860
Jeremy R. Hoff	5/7/2018	(1)		
	5/7/2018	(2)	1,003	30,220
	4/17/2019	(1)		80,392
	4/17/2019	(2)	1,995	60,109
	4/7/2020	(1)		40,002
	4/7/2020	(2)	4,310	129,860
Douglas Townsend	5/7/2018	(1)		
	5/7/2018	(2)		
	4/17/2019	(1)		40,196
	4/17/2019	(2)		
	4/7/2020	(1)		
	4/7/2020	(2)		

(1) Performance grant awards outstanding as of January 31, 2021. Performance metrics for the grants awarded on May 7, 2018 were not met; consequently, there was no payout and there are no amounts shown in the table. Performance grants are denominated as a percentage of the named executive officer's, base salary as of April 17, 2019 for the grants awarded on April 17, 2019 and base salary as of April 7, 2020 for the grants awarded on April 7, 2020. Performance grants are not expressed as a number of shares, units or other rights. Each performance grant entitles the executive officer to receive a payment based on the achievement of two specified

performance conditions. The payout will be the sum of two amounts, based on the Company’s absolute and relative EPS growth over a three-year performance period that began on February 4, 2019 and ends on January 30, 2022 and over a three-year performance period that began on February 3, 2020 and ends on January 29, 2023. At the discretion of the Committee, the grants awarded in 2019 and 2020 which are performance-based restricted stock units (“PSUs”), the payout or settlement shall be made in shares of the Company’s common stock (based on the fair market value of the shares of the Company’s common stock on the date of settlement or payment). In all cases, the executive officer also must remain continuously employed with the Company through the end of the performance period to be eligible for a payment, with prorated payments made due to retirement, death or disability. The performance grants provide for a lump sum cash payment to the executive officer if the Company undergoes a change of control. For additional discussion regarding the performance grants, refer to the Executive Compensation Discussion at page 18.

- (2) Restricted stock units (“RSU”) awards outstanding at the end of the last completed fiscal year. Market value is based on the closing market price of the Company’s common stock on January 29, 2021, the last trading day of the Company’s 2021 fiscal year. Each RSU entitles the executive officer to receive one share of common stock if he or she remains continuously employed with the Company through the end of a three-year service period (i.e., May 6, 2021 for the May 7, 2018 award, April 16, 2022 for the April 17, 2019 award and April 7, 2023 for the April 7, 2020 award). At the discretion of the Committee, the RSUs may be paid in shares of the Company’s common stock, cash (based on the fair market value of a share of common stock on the date payment is made), or both. In addition to the service-based vesting requirement, 100% of the RSUs will vest upon a change of control of the Company and a prorated number of the RSUs will vest upon the death, disability or retirement of the executive officer. No amounts are shown for Mr. Townsend as he was entitled to and received a pro-rated share payout for the service periods that ended upon his separation from the Company on November 13, 2020.
- (3) Performance metrics were not met for the 2019 performance grant award as of the end of the 2021 fiscal year, which was the end of the award’s three-year performance period. Consequently, no amount was outstanding at the end of the 2021 fiscal year. The amount reported for the 2020 and 2021 performance grant awards is based on the level of performance achieved as of the end of the 2021 fiscal year, even though actual performance will not be measured under each of those awards until the end of their respective three-year performance periods. If the interim performance exceeded the threshold for the award, the reported value of the award was based on assumed achievement of the next higher performance measure that exceeds the actual interim measure of performance (which was the maximum performance level for both absolute and relative EPS growth). Any payments under the 2019 and 2020 performance grant awards will be determined based on actual performance through 2022 and 2023, respectively, and not on any interim measure of performance. Amounts shown for Mr. Townsend are prorated for the service period that ended upon his separation from the Company on November 13, 2020.

### Supplemental Retirement Benefits

The following table sets forth information concerning benefits provided for Messrs. Toms and Huckfeldt and Ms. Smith under the Company’s Supplemental Retirement Income Plan (“SRIP”). Messrs. Boone, Hoff and Townsend do not participate in the SRIP:

Name	Plan Name	Plan Years of Service	Present Value of Accumulated Benefit\$(1)
Paul B. Toms, Jr.	SRIP	17	4,232,364
Paul A. Huckfeldt	SRIP	15	950,722
Anne J. Smith	SRIP	13	599,077

(1) Assumes a discount rate of 1.75%, based on the Moody’s Composite Bond Rate as of January 31, 2021 (rounded to the nearest 25 basis points).

The SRIP provides a monthly supplemental retirement benefit equal to a specified percentage of the executive’s final average monthly compensation (25% for both Mr. Huckfeldt and Ms. Smith and a fixed amount for Mr. Toms), payable for a 15-year period following the executive’s termination of employment.

Final average monthly compensation means the average monthly base salary and any annual incentive awards paid to the executive during the five-year period before his termination of employment with the Company.

An executive becomes vested in 75% of the monthly supplemental benefit if the executive remains continuously employed with the Company until reaching age 60 and is vested in additional 5% increments for each subsequent year that the executive remains continuously employed with the Company. Executives who remain continuously employed to age 65 become fully vested in their monthly supplemental benefit. The monthly retirement benefit for each participant in the plan, regardless of age, will become fully vested and the present value of all plan benefits will be paid to participants in a lump sum upon a change in control of the Company (as discussed under Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control, below). As noted on page 32 above, the SRIP was amended in November 2019 to freeze Mr. Toms' Final Average Earnings at \$640,580, thereby also freezing the maximum annual payment to Mr. Toms under the SRIP to \$320,290 per year at his retirement, subject to fulfilling his commitment to assist the Board in implementation of a CEO succession plan. Additional information regarding the SRIP can be found under Executive Compensation beginning on page 18.

#### Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control

##### Supplemental Retirement Income Plan

Upon a change in control of the Company each SRIP participant, regardless of age, will become fully vested and receive the present value of his entire plan benefit in a lump sum payment. A "change in control" includes, subject to certain exceptions:

- acquisition, other than from the Company, of more than 50% of the outstanding shares or the combined voting power, of the Company's Common Stock; or
- a majority of members of the Board is replaced during a twelve-consecutive-month period by directors whose appointment or election is not endorsed by a majority of the members of the Board before the date of the appointment or election.

The benefits payable under the SRIP are described further under Pension Benefits above.

The following table provides the estimated lump sum payment each participating named executive officer would have received under the SRIP if a change in control had occurred on the last day of fiscal 2021.

Name	Change in Control – SRIP (1)
Paul B. Toms, Jr.	N/A(2)
Paul A. Huckfeldt	1,104,864
Anne J. Smith	912,947

(1) Calculated based on historical average salary and bonus amounts for the five-year period ended January 31, 2021 and assuming a discount rate equal to 120% of the short-term (0.17%), mid-term (0.62%) or long-term (1.62%) applicable federal rate for the month of January 2021 depending on the number of years remaining to the participant's retirement at age 65.

(2) Mr. Toms retired on January 31, 2021, the last business day of the Company's 2021 fiscal year.

If a SRIP participant were to die while employed by the Company and before payment of his vested benefit begins, his beneficiary will receive a death benefit equal to the participant's vested benefit, which would be paid in 180 equal monthly payments.

## Performance Grants

Outstanding performance grants awarded to the named executive officers provide for a lump sum cash payment to the executive officer if the Company undergoes a “change of control.” The payment would be made on the date of the change of control and would assume that the named executive officer remained continuously employed through the end of the applicable performance period and that the specified target levels defined in the grant agreement had been attained for the applicable performance period. A change of control includes, subject to certain exceptions:

- acquisition, other than from the Company, of more than 50% of the combined voting power of the Company’s Common Stock; or
- a majority of the members of the Board is replaced during a twelve-consecutive-month period by directors whose appointment or election is not endorsed by a majority of the members of the Board before the date of the appointment or election; and
- on or after the occurrence of the change of control, the participant’s employment is terminated involuntarily or constructively terminated without cause.

For grants made under the 2015 Stock Incentive Plan generally provides that where the successor or acquirer agrees in writing prior to the occurrence of a change of control to assume or continue the Company’s outstanding awards, no accelerated vesting, exercisability and/or payment of an outstanding award (or substitute award) shall occur, unless on or after the occurrence of the change of control, the participant’s employment is terminated involuntarily or constructively terminated without cause.

For future grants, under the 2020 amendment and restatement of the Stock Incentive Plan, the Compensation Committee (or, with respect to director awards, the Board) is permitted to provide for vesting of awards to eligible employees in connection with a change in control of the Company if there is also a termination of employment in connection with the change in control. This is often referred to as “double trigger” vesting. For these purposes, a termination is considered to be in connection with a change of control if it occurs upon or within two years after the change in control and is for one of the following two reasons: (i) an involuntary termination by the company without “cause” or (ii) a “constructive termination” by the participant. The terms “cause” and “constructive termination” are defined in the applicable award agreements. In addition, the Committee may provide for the assumption or substitution of awards by a surviving corporation. Awards to non-employee Directors may fully vest upon a change in control.

The performance grants also provide for a pro-rated lump sum payment to be made in connection with the death, disability or retirement (as defined in the 2020 Stock Incentive Plan) of the named executive officer. The payment would be made upon the completion of the applicable performance period based on the performance levels actually achieved for the applicable performance period.

The following table provides the estimated aggregate payments to which each named executive officer would have been entitled under his respective performance grants if a change of control, or the executive’s death, disability or retirement, had occurred on the last day of fiscal 2021 (subject to certain assumptions, as specified below).

Name	Payout under Performance Grants (\$)(1)	
	Change of Control	Death, Disability or Retirement
Paul B. Toms, Jr.	\$ 675,000	\$ 337,163
Paul A. Huckfeldt	264,015	131,878
Anne J. Smith	264,015	131,878
D. Lee Boone	240,615	120,287
Jeremy R. Hoff	240,615	120,287
Douglas Townsend	-	-

- (1) These amounts include the amounts payable under three-year performance grants awarded April 17, 2019 and April 7, 2020 which are described in the Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End table on page 39. Performance metrics were not met for the grants awarded on May 7, 2018 and are therefore not included in the amounts shown above. The payout amounts in connection with an executive's death, disability or retirement assume that the probable level of performance is achieved for the applicable performance periods.

#### Restricted Stock Units

The Compensation Committee may provide that outstanding restricted stock units (RSUs) awarded to the named executive officers will vest earlier upon certain terminations of employment following a change of control and may also be eligible for earlier pro rata vesting in connection with a termination of employment on account of death, disability or retirement (as defined in the 2020 Stock Incentive Plan). A "change of control" of the Company for purposes of the RSUs has the same meaning as for the performance grants described above. The RSU payment would be a lump sum paid on the date of the change of control or as soon as administratively practicable after the vesting date upon the executive's death, disability or retirement. The following table provides an estimate of the aggregate payments that each named executive officer would have received under the executive's RSUs if a change of control, or the executive's death, disability or retirement, had occurred on the last day of fiscal 2021.

Name	Payout under Restricted Stock Units Upon (\$)(1)	
	Change of Control	Death, Disability or Retirement
Paul B. Toms, Jr.	\$ -	\$ -
Paul A. Huckfeldt	128,926	69,712
Anne J. Smith	120,882	61,667
D. Lee Boone	221,787	114,343
Jeremy R. Hoff	220,190	112,746
Douglas Townsend	-	-

- (1) These amounts include the amounts payable under three-year RSUs awarded May 7, 2018, April 17, 2019 and April 7, 2020 which are described in the Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End table on page 40 and are calculated based on the closing price of the Company's Common Stock as of the last trading day of fiscal 2021.

#### Smith, Boone and Hoff Employment Agreements

Under each of these employment agreements, the named executive officer is entitled to receive certain payments in connection with his or her termination of employment absent "cause," and in the event of his

or her death. If the executive's employment is terminated by the Company absent "cause," (defined below) during the term of her agreement, he or she would receive:

- A cash severance payment equal to nine (9) months of base salary for Ms. Smith payable in a single lump sum; in the case of Messrs. Boone and Hoff, the cash severance payment is equal to eighteen (18) months of base salary for any termination of employment that occurs before the last day of the fiscal year ending in 2021, and nine (9) months of base salary for any termination of employment thereafter, in either case payable in a single lump sum;
- An annual incentive prorated for the period ending on his or her termination date; and
- Accelerated vesting with respect to any long-term incentive award unvested and outstanding as of his or her termination date, based on actual performance for the grant period. Proration shall be calculated based on the number of the executive's completed years of service from grant date to his or her termination date, as compared to number of full years in the performance period and the award will not be settled and delivered until after the close of the applicable performance period.

If the named executive officer's employment is terminated on account of death, he or she would receive payment of his or her base salary through his or her termination date, and a prorated annual incentive for the period ending with his or her death.

If the executive voluntarily terminates his or her employment, or he or she is terminated for "cause," by the Company, he or she will not receive any post-termination payments, other than any salary or benefit due through and including the respective executive's date of termination.

Under the terms of each of the employment agreements covering these executives the following definitions of "cause" means the executive's:

- gross negligence in the performance of his or her material duties;
- intentional nonperformance or mis-performance of his or her duties, or refusal to abide by or comply with reasonable directives of the CEO or the Company's policies and procedures;
- willful dishonesty, fraud or misconduct with respect to the business or affairs of the Company, which in the judgment of the CEO adversely affects the Company;
- executive's arrest for, conviction of, or a plea of nolo contendere to, a felony or other crime involving moral turpitude or that otherwise threatens to interfere with the Company's interests, as determined by the CEO in his sole discretion; or
- executive's failure to report to work or unexcused absenteeism in violation of the Company's attendance policies.

The terms of each of the employment agreements covering these executive officers also include covenants relating to confidentiality, non-disclosure of work-related intellectual property, non-competition and non-solicitation of customers. Under the non-compete provision, each executive covenants that he or she will not compete with the Company for a period of eighteen (18) months post-termination of employment in a position with duties substantially similar to his or her duties with the Company within the last twelve months within the United States. Similarly, each executive agrees that for a period of eighteen (18) months post-termination of employment, he or she will not solicit for the benefit of a business in competition with the Company, any customer, employee or independent contractor, who was a customer, employee or independent contractor of the Company within the twelve months preceding the executive's termination of employment.

#### PAYMENTS UPON INVOLUNTARY TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT ABSENT CAUSE

The table below describes the payments due each of our named executive officers in the event of an involuntary termination of employment absent "cause" assuming such termination occurred on January 31, 2021, the last business day of the Company's fiscal year.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Cash(1)</b>	<b>STIC(2)</b>	<b>LTIC(3)</b>	<b>Total</b>
Paul B. Toms, Jr.	-		337,500	337,500
Paul A. Huckfeldt	-		132,000	132,000
Anne J. Smith	206,250		132,000	338,250
D. Lee Boone	225,000		120,394	345,394
Jeremy R. Hoff	225,000	93,000	120,394	438,394
Douglas Townsend	-	-	-	-

- (1) This represents the cash severance payment due each named executive under his or her respective employment agreement, if any, assuming a termination date of January 31, 2021; Messrs. Toms and Huckfeldt are not covered by an employment agreement and no cash severance is payable to either executive.
- (2) This represents the short-term incentive cash payment due each executive assuming a termination date of January 31, 2021. Messrs. Toms, Huckfeldt and Boone and Ms. Smith did not earn short-term incentive cash payments for the 2021 fiscal year because consolidated or segment results on which each are bonused did not reach at least a threshold level of budgeted performance.
- (3) This represents the value of any long-term incentive award payable to each executive assuming a termination date of January 31, 2021 under each executive's employment agreement, which in the case of Messrs. Boone and Hoff, the vesting of any outstanding long-term incentive award is accelerated on a prorated basis based on actual performance to date.

#### *Pay Ratio Disclosure*

In accordance with Item 402(u) of Regulation S-K, promulgated by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform Act and Consumer Protection Act of 2010, we determined the ratio of the annual total compensation of Mr. Toms, our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, relative to the annual total compensation of our median employee.

To identify the median compensated employee, the Company selected a new median employee using 2020 W-2 wages for its U.S. employees or its equivalent for non-US employees. It identified its median employee from its employee population as of December 31, 2020. In fiscal 2021, a number of the Company's employees were furloughed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In accordance with guidance published by the SEC, the Company annualized the compensation of its furloughed employees who returned to work and remained employed as of December 31, 2020, treating them similarly to non-furloughed employees. While two employees were initially identified as the median employee, the Company selected a single employee as the median employee, as required by SEC rules, choosing the employee whose income types most closely resembled that of our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer.

The Company then determined total compensation for the median employee in the same manner as the "Total Compensation" column shown for Mr. Toms in the Summary Compensation Table on page 36.

Pay elements that were included to determine total annual compensation for the median employee were:

- Base salary, including overtime, vacation and holiday pay;
- Annual cash incentive; and
- 401(k) matching contribution.

The Company then determined that the 2021 fiscal year annual total compensation of the median employee was \$39,253. Mr. Toms' 2020 annual total compensation for the same period was \$923,559 and the ratio of these amounts was 1-to-24.

As of the end of fiscal 2021, the Company's total employee population consisted of 1,148 employees, of which 938 were located in the United States and 210 were located in Asia.

The Company believes this pay ratio is a reasonable estimate and is calculated in a manner consistent with the SEC guidance based on our payroll and employment records and the methodology described above.

### EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN INFORMATION

The following table summarizes information about the Company's equity compensation plans as of January 31, 2021:

<u>Plan Category</u>	<u>Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights</u>	<u>Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights</u>	<u>Approximate number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans(1)</u>
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	0	N/A	324,000
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	None	None	None
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>324,000</b>

(1) Shares allocable to incentive awards granted under the Company's 2020 Stock Incentive Plan that expire, are forfeited, lapse or are otherwise terminated or cancelled are added to the shares available for incentive awards under the plan. Any shares covered by a stock appreciation right are counted as used only to the extent shares are actually issued to a participant when the stock appreciation right is exercised. Any shares retained by the Company in satisfaction of a participant's obligation to pay applicable withholding taxes with respect to any incentive award and any shares covered by an incentive award that is settled in cash are added to the shares available for incentive awards under the plan.

### DELINQUENT SECTION 16(a) REPORTS

The Exchange Act requires the Company's executive officers and directors, and any persons owning more than 10% of the Common Stock, to file reports of ownership and changes in ownership with the SEC. Based solely on its review of Forms 3, 4 and 5 filed during or with respect to the fiscal year ended January 31, 2021, and written representations from the Company's directors and executive officers and certain other reporting persons that no Forms 5 were required to be filed by those persons for that fiscal year, the Company believes that all executive officers, directors and 10% shareholders complied with those filing requirements and there were no late reports, except that Mr. Beeler was late in filing a Form 5 for a total of 71 shares acquired in fiscal 2020 through a quarterly dividend reinvestment feature in his brokerage account.



## SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT

The following table sets forth information with respect to the beneficial ownership of the Company's Common Stock as of April 12, 2021 (unless noted otherwise below) by:

- each shareholder known by the Company to be the beneficial owner of more than 5% of its outstanding Common Stock;
- each director and director nominee;
- each named executive officer; and
- all directors and executive officers as a group.

Name	Amount and Nature Of Beneficial Ownership	Percent Of Class
Pzena Investment Management, LLC (1)	1,519,469(1)	12.8%
Royce & Associates, LP (2)	1,292,328(2)	10.9
BlackRock, Inc. (3)	1,005,126(3)	8.4
Dimensional Fund Advisors LP (4)	955,012(4)	8.0
Towle & Co. (5)	736,457(5)	6.2
The Vanguard Group (6)	595,535(6)	5.0
Paul B. Toms, Jr.	116,305(7)	*
Henry G. Williamson, Jr.	45,085(8)	*
W. Christopher Beeler, Jr.	42,220(9)	*
Paul A. Huckfeldt	25,403(10)	*
E. Larry Ryder	18,700(11)	*
Anne J. Smith	9,941(12)	*
Ellen C. Taaffe	9,456(13)	*
Paulette Garafalo	7,595(14)	*
Tonya H. Jackson	7,502(15)	*
D. Lee Boone	2,000(16)	*
Jeremy R. Hoff	433(17)	*
Maria C. Duey	419(18)	*
Douglas Townsend	100(19)	*
All directors and executive officers as a group (14 persons)	286,120	2.4

\* Less than one percent.

(1)The beneficial ownership information for Pzena Investment Management, LLC is based upon a Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC on January 28, 2021. The Schedule 13G/A indicates that Pzena Investment Management, LLC, an investment adviser, has sole voting power with respect to 1,214,520 and sole disposition power with respect to all 1,519,469 shares. The principal business address of Pzena Investment Management, LLC is 320 Park Avenue, 8th Floor, New York, New York 10022.

(2)The beneficial ownership information for Royce & Associates, LP is based upon a Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC on January 27, 2021. The Schedule 13G/A indicates that Royce & Associates, LP, an investment adviser, has sole disposition power and sole voting power with respect to all 1,292,328 shares. The principal business address of Royce & Associates, LP is 745 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10151.

(3)The beneficial ownership information for BlackRock, Inc. is based upon a Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC on January 29, 2021. The Schedule 13G/A indicates that BlackRock, Inc. has sole voting power with respect to 968,722 shares and sole disposition power with respect to all 1,005,126 shares. The principal business address of BlackRock, Inc. is 55 East 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, New York, New York 10055.

(4)The beneficial ownership information for Dimensional Fund Advisors LP is based upon a Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC on February 12, 2021. The Schedule 13G/A indicates that Dimensional Fund Advisors LP, a registered investment adviser that furnishes investment advice to four registered investment companies and serves as investment manager or sub-adviser to certain other commingled funds, group trusts and separate accounts (such investment companies, trusts and accounts, collectively referred to as the "Funds"), reported holdings of the Company's Common Stock beneficially owned by the Funds such that the reporting person had sole voting power over 928,502 shares and sole disposition power over 955,012 shares. Dimensional Fund Advisors LP reported that either it or its subsidiaries may possess voting and/or investment power over the Company's Common Stock owned by the Funds but disclaimed beneficial ownership of such Company Common Stock.

The principal business address of Dimensional Fund Advisors LP is Building One, 6300 Bee Cave Road, Austin, Texas 78746.

- (5) The beneficial ownership information for Towle & Co. is based upon a Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC on February 12, 2021. The Schedule 13G/A indicates that Towle & Co., an investment adviser, has sole disposition power and sole voting power with respect to all 736,457 shares. The principal business address of Towle & Co. is 1610 Des Peres Road, Suite 250, St. Louis, Missouri 63131.
- (6) The beneficial ownership information for the Vanguard Group is based upon a Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on February 10, 2021. The Schedule 13G indicates that the Vanguard Group, an investment adviser, has shared power to vote 8,900 shares, sole disposition power of 583,452 shares and shared disposition power of 12,083 shares. The principal business address of the Vanguard Group is 100 Vanguard Blvd., Malvern, PA 19355.
- (7) Mr. Toms has sole voting and disposition power with respect to 84,761 shares and shared voting and disposition power with respect to 31,544 shares.
- (8) Mr. Williamson has sole voting and disposition power with respect to 45,085 shares.
- (9) Mr. Beeler has sole voting and disposition power with respect to all 42,202 shares.
- (10) Mr. Huckfeldt has sole voting and disposition power with respect to 24,403 shares and has shared voting and disposition power with respect to 1,000 shares.
- (11) Mr. Ryder has sole voting and disposition power with respect to all 18,700 shares.
- (12) Ms. Smith has sole voting and disposition power with respect to all 9,941 shares.
- (13) Ms. Taaffe has sole voting and disposition power with respect to all 9,456 shares.
- (14) Ms. Garafalo has sole voting and disposition power with respect to all 7,595 shares.
- (15) Ms. Jackson has sole voting and disposition power with respect to all 7,502 shares.
- (16) Mr. Boone has sole voting and disposition power with respect to all 2,000 shares.
- (17) Mr. Hoff has sole voting and disposition power with respect to all 433 shares.
- (18) Ms. Duey has sole voting and disposition power with respect to all 419 shares.
- (19) Mr. Townsend has sole voting and disposition power with respect to all 100 shares.

**PROPOSAL TWO  
RATIFICATION OF SELECTION OF  
INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors has selected the firm of KPMG LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending January 30, 2022, subject to ratification by the shareholders. Action by the shareholders is not required by law in the selection of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, but the Company submits its selection in order to give shareholders an opportunity to ratify the Audit Committee's selection of KPMG. If the shareholders do not ratify the selection of KPMG, the Audit Committee will reconsider the selection of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm. Unless otherwise specified, shares represented by proxies will be voted for the ratification of the selection of KPMG, as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2022. KPMG has served as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm since fiscal 2003.

Representatives of KPMG are expected to be present at the Annual Meeting either in person or telephonically. They will have the opportunity to make a statement if they desire to do so and are expected to be available to respond to appropriate questions.

**Principal Accountant Fees and Services**

The following table presents fees billed to the Company by KPMG for the:

- fiscal year ended January 31, 2021 (fiscal 2021), and
- fiscal year ended February 2, 2020 (fiscal 2020).

	<u>Fiscal 2021</u>	<u>Fiscal 2020</u>
Audit Fees	\$ 1,267,000	\$ 1,380,000
Audit-Related Fees	None	None
Tax Fees	17,000	62,000
All Other Fees	None	None

*Audit Fees* include KPMG’s fees for audit services, including the audits of the Company’s annual financial statements and internal control over financial reporting, review of the Company’s quarterly financial statements included in its Forms 10-Q and review of SEC filings.

*Audit-Related Fees* include fees billed by KPMG during the periods reported for audit-related services not otherwise reported in Audit Fees.

*Tax Fees* include fees billed by KPMG for federal, state and international tax planning and compliance services and advice. For both fiscal 2021 and fiscal 2020, tax matters included consulting in connection with international tax planning and compliance.

#### **Audit Committee Pre-approval of Audit and Non-Audit Services**

The Audit Committee is required to pre-approve all audit and permitted non-audit services provided by KPMG, the Company’s auditing firm. The Audit Committee has authorized the Committee Chair to approve specific tax projects up to \$30,000 each or an aggregate of no more than \$60,000 and individual audit-related projects up to a maximum of \$50,000 between Committee meetings provided that the decision to approve the service is presented at the next scheduled Committee meeting. Less than 1% of aggregate Audit-Related Fees and Tax Fees for each fiscal year presented above was approved by the Committee pursuant to the *de minimis* waiver of the pre-approval requirement set forth in Regulation S-X 2.01(c)(7)(i)(C).

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE *FOR* RATIFICATION OF THE SELECTION OF KPMG LLP AS THE COMPANY’S INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JANUARY 30, 2022.**

#### **PROPOSAL THREE APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION TO CHANGE THE COMPANY’S NAME TO HOOKER FURNISHINGS CORPORATION**

The Board of Directors has unanimously approved, and recommends that you approve, an amendment to the Articles of Incorporation to change the Company’s name from “Hooker Furniture Corporation” to “Hooker Furnishings Corporation.” The Board believes the use of “Furnishings” instead of “Furniture” in the corporation’s name more accurately reflects the expected future state of the Company as it seeks growth through acquisition, which may include acquiring businesses selling items complimentary to its current furniture offerings.

If the proposed amendment is approved, Article I of the Articles of Incorporation will be amended to read, “The name of the Corporation is Hooker Furnishings Corporation.” We are asking shareholders to approve the following resolution seeking authority and approval to amend the Articles of Incorporation as follows:

**RESOLVED, that the proposed amendment to the Company’s Articles of Incorporation to change the name from Hooker Furniture Corporation to Hooker Furnishings Corporation is hereby approved.**

If this proposal is approved, the Company will retain its ticker symbol “HOFT” for its Nasdaq listing. The voting and other rights that accompany the company’s common stock will remain unchanged. The name change will not affect the validity or transferability of any currently outstanding stock certificates nor will it be necessary for shareholders with certificated shares to surrender or exchange any stock certificates they currently hold.

We plan to submit the Articles of Amendment reflecting the name change to the SCC promptly following the approval by shareholders at the 2021 Annual Meeting. The Articles of Amendment will become effective when the SCC issues its Certificate of Amendment.

Proposal 3 will be approved if more than two-thirds of all votes entitled to be cast vote in favor of the proposal. Abstentions and broker shares that are not voted on this proposal will have the same effect as a vote against the proposal.

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR THE AMENDMENT TO THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION TO CHANGE THE COMPANY’S NAME TO HOOKER FURNISHINGS CORPORATION.**

**PROPOSAL FOUR  
ADVISORY VOTE TO APPROVE EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, enacted in July 2010, requires that the Company provide its shareholders with the opportunity to vote to approve, on a non-binding, advisory basis, the compensation of the Company’s named executive officers as disclosed in this proxy statement. Consistent with a majority of the advisory votes cast at the 2017 Annual Meeting of Shareholders and the recommendation of the Company’s Board of Directors, the Company holds a shareholder advisory vote to approve the compensation of its named executive officers annually. The Company encourages shareholders to read the disclosures under Executive Compensation, beginning on page 17, which include the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the compensation tables and the narratives that accompany those tables, for more information concerning the Company’s compensation philosophy, programs and practices, the compensation and governance-related actions taken in fiscal 2021 and the compensation awarded to the named executive officers.

As described under the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the Company’s executive compensation programs are designed to:

- attract and retain highly qualified executives who will contribute significantly to the success and financial growth of the Company and enhance value for shareholders; and
- motivate and appropriately reward executives when they achieve the Company’s financial and business goals and meet their individual performance objectives.

The Board believes that the Company’s executive compensation program satisfies these objectives and is worthy of shareholder support. In determining whether to approve this proposal, the Board believes that shareholders should consider the following:

*Independent Compensation Committee.* Executive compensation is reviewed and established by a Compensation Committee of the Board consisting solely of independent directors. The Compensation Committee regularly meets in executive session, without executive officers present, in determining annual compensation. The Compensation Committee, at its sole discretion, may obtain data, analysis and input from an independent compensation consultant.

*Compensation is Tied to Performance.* Key elements of the Company’s compensation program, including annual cash incentives and certain long-term incentive awards, are aligned with financial and operational objectives established in the Board-approved annual operating plan. As a result, a meaningful portion of each executive’s total compensation is “at risk” and is earned only if a threshold level of targeted performance is achieved.

*Balanced Compensation Structure.* Total cash compensation is allocated between base salary and an annual incentive opportunity tied directly to objective and quantifiable measures of the Company's business performance. Long-term incentive awards are balanced between those that are earned only if specific performance measures are met and those that are earned if an executive remains in continuous employment for a sustained period. Retirement benefits are only provided if an executive remains employed to a specified age.

This vote is not intended to address any specific item of compensation, but rather the overall compensation of the named executive officers described in this proxy statement. This vote is advisory, which means that the vote is not binding on the Company, the Board of Directors or the Compensation Committee. To the extent there is any significant vote against named executive officer compensation as disclosed in this proxy statement, the Compensation Committee will evaluate whether any actions are appropriate to address the concerns of shareholders.

This proposal will be approved if the number of votes cast in favor of the proposal exceeds the number of votes cast against it.

Accordingly, the Company asks its shareholders to vote on the following resolution at the Annual Meeting:

**RESOLVED, that the Company's shareholders approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the Company's named executive officers, as disclosed in the Company's proxy statement for the 2021 Annual Meeting of Shareholders pursuant to the compensation disclosure rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission.**

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE COMPENSATION OF THE COMPANY'S NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, AS DISCLOSED IN THIS PROXY STATEMENT.**

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Management knows of no other business that will be presented for consideration at the Annual Meeting, but should any other matters be brought before the meeting, it is intended that the persons named in the accompanying proxy will vote that proxy at their discretion.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

##### Shareholder Proposals for 2022 Annual Meeting

The Company plans to hold the 2022 Annual Meeting on June 7, 2022. The Company's bylaws (Article II, Section 1) provide that for business to be properly brought before an Annual Meeting by a shareholder of record, the shareholder must, in addition to meeting other applicable requirements, give timely written notice to the Secretary at the principal office of the Company. To submit business at the 2022 Annual Meeting, the notice must be received no later than January 3, 2022. The shareholder's notice must include:

- the name and address of the shareholder, as they appear on the Company's stock transfer books;
- the number of shares of stock of the Company beneficially owned by the shareholder;
- a representation that the shareholder is a record holder at the time the notice is given and intends to appear in person or by proxy at the meeting to present the business specified in the notice;
- a brief description of the business desired to be brought before the meeting, including the complete text of any resolutions to be presented and the reasons for wanting to conduct such business; and
- any interest that the shareholder may have in such business.

The proxies for the 2022 Annual Meeting will have discretionary authority to vote on any matter that properly comes before the meeting if the shareholder has not provided written notice before March 19, 2022.

A proposal that any shareholder desires to have included in the proxy statement for the 2020 Annual Meeting of shareholders must be received by the Company no later than January 3, 2021 and must comply with the SEC rules regarding shareholder proposals.

### Shareholder Communications

Shareholders may send written communications to the Board of Directors c/o C. Earl Armstrong III, Secretary, Hooker Furniture Corporation, P.O. Box 4708, Martinsville, Virginia 24115-4708. Any shareholder communication directed to the Board, a Director or any Board Committee, is forwarded to the Company's Chief Financial Officer and then to the Board or the appropriate Director(s) or Committee(s).

By Order of the Board of Directors,



C. Earl Armstrong III  
Secretary

May 3, 2021

REVOCABLE PROXY

**HOOKER FURNITURE CORPORATION**

**PROXY SOLICITED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**For the Annual Meeting of Shareholders called for Thursday, June 3, 2021**

The undersigned hereby appoints Jeremy R. Hoff and Paul A. Huckfeldt, or either of them, the attorneys, agents and proxies of the undersigned, with full power of substitution, to vote all the shares of common stock of Hooker Furniture Corporation (the "Company") that the undersigned is entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders of the Company to be held at the Company's Corporate Office at 440 East Commonwealth Boulevard, Martinsville, Virginia, on Thursday, June 3, 2021 at 1:00P.M., and all adjournments thereof, with all the powers the undersigned would possess if then and there personally present. Without limiting the general authorization and power hereby given, the above proxies are directed to vote as instructed on the matters on the reverse side:

**(Continued and to be dated and signed on reverse side)**

ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS OF  
**HOOKER FURNITURE CORPORATION**  
June 3, 2021

**GO GREEN**

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**Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be Held on Thursday, June 3, 2021:**

The Company's Proxy Statement and Annual Report to Shareholders are available at <http://www.astproxyportal.com/ast/25490>

Please sign, date and mail your proxy card in the envelope provided as soon as possible.

Please detach along perforated line and mail in the envelope provided.

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PLEASE COMPLETE, SIGN, DATE AND RETURN PROMPTLY IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE. PLEASE MARK YOUR VOTE IN BLUE OR BLACK INK AS SHOWN HERE

1. Election of Directors:

FOR ALL NOMINEES

WITHHOLD AUTHORITY  
FOR ALL NOMINEES

FOR ALL EXCEPT  
(See instructions below)

NOMINEES:

- W. Christopher Beeler, Jr.
- Maria C. Duey
- Paulette Garafalo
- Jeremy R. Hoff
- Tonya H. Jackson
- E. Larry Ryder
- Ellen C. Taaffe
- Paul B. Toms, Jr.
- Henry G. Williamson, Jr.

2. Ratify the selection of KPMG LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending January 30, 2022.

FOR

AGAINST

ABSTAIN

3. Proposed amendment to the Articles of Incorporation to change the Company's name to Hooker Furnishings Corporation.

FOR

AGAINST

ABSTAIN

4. Advisory vote to approve named executive officer compensation.

FOR

AGAINST

ABSTAIN

5. In their discretion the proxies are authorized to vote upon such other matters as may come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

All as more particularly described in the Company's Proxy Statement for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held on June 3, 2021, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** To withhold authority to vote for any individual nominee(s), mark "FOR ALL EXCEPT" and fill in the circle next to each nominee you wish to withhold, as shown here: ●

**THIS PROXY, WHEN PROPERLY EXECUTED, WILL BE VOTED AS SPECIFIED BY THE UNDERSIGNED SHAREHOLDER. IF NO CHOICE IS SPECIFIED BY THE SHAREHOLDER, THIS PROXY WILL BE VOTED "FOR" THE 9 DIRECTOR NOMINEES LISTED IN ITEM (1), "FOR" ITEMS (2), (3), AND (4) AND IN THE PROXIES' DISCRETION ON ANY OTHER MATTERS COMING BEFORE THE MEETING.**

The undersigned hereby revokes any proxy or proxies heretofore given to vote upon or act with respect to such stock and hereby ratifies and confirms all that said proxies, their substitutes or any of them may lawfully do by virtue hereof.

**Please promptly complete, sign, date and mail this Proxy Card in the enclosed envelope. No postage is required.**

To change the address on your account, please check the box at right and indicate your new address in the address space above. Please note that changes to the registered name(s) on the account may not be submitted via this method.

Signature of Shareholder  Date:  Signature of Shareholder  Date:

**Note:** Please sign exactly as your name or names appear on this Proxy. When shares are held jointly, each holder should sign. When signing as executor, administrator, attorney, trustee or guardian, please give full title as such. If the signer is a corporation, please sign full corporate name by duly authorized officer, giving full title as such. If signer is a partnership, please sign in partnership name by authorized person.